a novel by the author of
a very yuppy wedding, divortiare,
underground,and antologi rasa

Ika Natassa

twivortiare

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a novel by Ika Natassa

Penerbit PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama
Jakarta, 2012

On January 23rd 2011, Alexandra the woman you ve all known from the book *Divortiare* discovered the fun of Twitter through her account @alexandrarheaw. These are the collections of her tweets on her everyday life and not-so private thoughts that will finally answer the question:

Can you love and hate someone so much
at the same time?

dare we say twitterature?

I can't remember what got me to do this in the first place, but one morning, this thing hit my head: hey, what if a character that I've created in one of my books has a Twitter account? What he/she would say?

Well, to say I had too much time in my hand or that I got bored at that time is probably not far from the truth. So yes, that morning on January 23rd which was around the time that I was experiencing the so-called writer's block while finishing *Antologi Rasa* I set up a Twitter account under the name of @alexandrarheaw, tweeting as Alexandra Wicaksono, the female lead in my 2nd book *Divortiare*.

At first I didn't promote that thing. I just tweeted once in a while, and suddenly I realized that it was growing followers. And you know what, some started speculating that Alexandra was real. That the book I wrote a few years back was about this one real woman. So before it got carried away, I just tweeted in my personal account @ikanatassa that now they can follow @alexandrarheaw as the spin-off of *Divortiare*. Well, whaddayaknow, at the time I wrote this, the @alexandrarheaw got some twelve hundred followers. Which for me, is kinda... *wow*.

What s more *wow*, though, is how the followers in this case, my readers—reacted to the tweets. They asked questions, commented, and expressed their emotions towards some of the things that I tweeted as if this Alexandra character is real. Suddenly I m in this weird, cosmic, unfathomable interactive relationship with the followers. Which is totally new for me. I didn t even know that their comments and questions could actually lead me to making up stories as we go. At one point, I think I got really really creative that I said to myself I can t believe I m tweeting this shit but it s fun. @alexandrarheaw s tweets, like all Twitter ramblings, are plotless, spontaneous, chaotic, just as a normal, living person lives his/her life.

What amuses me more is that some followers actually took the liberty of creating their own spin-off Twitter account. Before I know it, now the husband is tweeting, the best friend is tweeting, hell even the housemaid of the character is tweeting. Which I found hilarious. And I don t mind, really. If one Twitter account that I started could ignite others to explore their own creativity, why not?

I personally don t know if this is going to be a trend now or in the future. You know, the whole an author tweeting his/her story instead of writing it in a book. A couple of people have done something called twitterature a smart amalgamation of twitter and literature , don t you think? In it, these two guys, Achman and Rensin, wrote humorous reworkings of literary classics for the twenty-first-century intellect, in digestible portions of 20 tweets or fewer. I bought and read the book, and I must say, I quite enjoyed how Hamlet was tweeting, Harry Potter was tweeting, Anna Karenina was tweeting, and a whole bunch more.

And didn t Shit My Dad Says start from @shitmydadsays?

And then there s this article in *Time Magazine* *Twitter Lit: A New Creative Outlet* in which they explained how writers are shaping

their work to exploit technology. It is actually kinda true. Authors used to write on stones, leaves, papers, and now we re writing on our laptops and iPads.

Twitter is often blamed as the primary cause why writers can t write. I'm just trying to prove the opposite, and have fun doing it.

what is twitter?

Twitter adalah jaringan informasi/sarana *social media* di mana penggunanya bisa mem-*post* pesan maksimal 140 karakter per *post*, yang disebut *tweets*.

format twitter

@username

Merupakan nama pseudonim pengguna di Twitter.com. *Mention* berarti menggunakan format @username ini saat membuat *post*.

D username

Mirip dengan @username namun pada saat menggunakan format ini, *mention* bersifat *private* dan hanya bisa dilihat oleh orang yang dituju/di-*mention*.

#words

Hashtag (#) menandakan *post* yang berkaitan dengan tema tertentu. *Posts* yang ditandai dengan *hashtag* yang sama dapat di-*search* dengan mengeklik *hashtag* tersebut.

Alex Rhea Wicaksono

@alexandrarheaw Jakarta

life is never boring when everyday I have weird, silly conversations with my husband that only us understand.

About @alexandrarheaw

23,382 Tweets | **11** Following | **3,252** Followers | **15** Listed

”I think we like to complicate things
when it is really **quite simple**;
find **what** it is that makes you **happy**
and **who** it is that makes you happy
and you’re set. **Promise**.”

23 Januari 2011

Woke up to Beno's snoring. Hhhh... what time did you get home last night from the hospital, Hon?

My first tweet sounded so domestic and not at all sexy. Am I using Twitter the wrong way?

Whoa... what do we have here? A box with a ribbon on top? Another apology gift, I guess.

29 Januari 2011

Spa day with my bitchy bestie @winasoedarjo.

So, Heart Surgeon, bini lo yang cantik banget dengan kulit glowing ini mau dibawa dating ke mana malam ini?

Ran into a couple of Beno's patients at Pesto. They spoke like they're one of his biggest fans :)

Kayaknya nggak ada deh nasabah gue yg ngefans sama gue.

6 Februari 2011

He just told me that he loved it when I play housewife. The Heart Surgeon says gue seksi banget kalau gue masakin dia telur dadar masih pake setelan kantor dan stiletto.

11 Februari 2011

I look like a zombie. Thanks to the busiest surgeon in Jakarta yang baru pulang jam setengah dua pagi tadi. He's still snoring while I have to get ready for work.

Ancaman gue: ”Kalau besok kamu pulang jam segini lagi, aku nggak tidur di rumah ya.” Him (dengan muka datar): ”Mau tidur di mana?” Me: ”Hotel paling mahal pake credit card kamu.”

Him: ”Oh ya udah, kabarin aja di mana nanti aku nyusul.” Me: ”Beno! This is me being angry, ya!”

Dan dia cuma senyum, mencium gue, terus langsung menghilang ke kamar mandi.

Juara ya laki gue. He should come with a manual.

What any doctor’s wife must do: recognize the face of a surgery gone bad. The Surgeon just lost a patient today.

12 Februari 2011

Why the hell am I wide awake at 3 AM in the morning?

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Good morning, darla! What’s your ”exotic” wake up position this morning? *wink*

@winasoedarjo LOL exotic my ass! Posisi tidur laki gue ini selalu nggak bener: I woke up tengkurep to Beno hugging my thighs and his face on my ass.

Who’s going to Java Jazz this year? The Heart Surgeon is taking me to see George Benson. We first met there dulu banget.

Beno: ”Tapi kali ini nggak pake pingsan-pingsanan kayak dulu ya, Lex.” Me: ”Bukannya kalau ini pake pingsan bisa kamu apa-apain?” Dia ketawa.

13 Februari 2011

I woke up way too early this morning. Today’s wake up position:

paha gue mati rasa digulingin Beno semalaman. He got home at 1 AM!

I think we're both getting old. This Sunday, we're both just snuggling in bed with the Heart Surgeon reading and me watching some DVDs. Males keluar.

14 Februari 2011

Yang bersangkutan akan di rumah sakit sampai jam 9 malam, yours truly akan dinner dengan nasabah sampai jam segituan juga. This is not Valentine's Day; this is Monday.

Well, we don't really make a big deal of Valentine's Day anyway.

When you don't know what to give your hubby for Valentine's Day, just wrap yourself in ribbons and nothing else. Believe me, it works ;)

15 Februari 2011

In desperate need of new shoes. Okay, in desperate WANT of new shoes.

Need. Want. Tomato. Tomahto.

Screw it! I am buying a new pair.

A woman can never have too many shoes. This I know is true.

A man's definition of shoes, though, is: black, brown, and running (tweeting this sambil mengamati rak sepatu the Heart Surgeon).

So let me paint you a picture of the scene that occurs everytime I come home with a new pair of shoes, and the hubby notices the shopping bag.

Him: ”Kamu beli sepatu lagi?” Me: ”Iya. Kenapa, Hon?” Him: ”Udah beli berapa bulan ini, Lex?” Me: (senyum memelas) ”Honeeey....” Him: (menghela napas) ”Ya udah deh.”

Me: ”Bagus nggak?” Him: ”Bagus sih. Tapi bukannya kamu udah punya banyak yang item ya?” Me: ”Iyaa... tapi ini Louboutin yang baru.” Him: ”Sayang, kita masih punya Popmie nggak? Laper.”

I’m done making sense of us. I’m happy with shoes, he’s happy with Popmie. Everyone is happy and that’s all that matters :)

19 Februari 2011

Ah my life. I was having dinner with the busiest cardiothoracic surgeon in Jakarta at SoHo, when he got an emergency call to the hospital.

So guess where I am now. At Beno’s office in the hospital, nungguin dia ngurus pasiennya, dengan suster yang bolak-balik untuk memastikan gue nyaman.

Nawarin minum, nawarin kue, sampe gue nggak enak sendiri. Ini pertama kalinya gue main ke rumah sakitnya since we got remarried.

Sekarang agak-agak nyesel sih sebenernya. Gila, ini gue mau nunggu di rumah sakit sampe jam berapa??

22 Februari 2011

Singapore in just four hours for some shipping industry training that will keep me yawning.

Yang penting: Paragon, Ngee Ann City, dan Ion menanti :)

Traffic to the airport is shit.

The 1st thing I wanna do once I land in Singapore: laporan wajib to the Heart Surgeon, catch a cab, then sleep in the comfy Conrad bed.

23 Februari 2011

Terima kasih buat Bapak Beno yang bangunin gue pagi-pagi dengan telepon berisiknya, cuma buat nanya: ”Boxer aku yang abu-abu di mana, Yang?”

Note to self: lain kali kalau mau business trip siapin baju laki gue untuk berapa hari pun gue pergi, lipet di atas sofa pake tag hari sekalian.

24 Februari 2011

Cooking—my best effort anyway—for Beno’s birthday dinner. Gila, ini harus kelar sebelum dia pulang jam 9!

25 Februari 2011

Signs that the birthday surprise last night was a success: kami berdua nggak sakit perut, wake up position yang untweetable, and he was ”grateful”. Morning, Twitterverse.

27 Februari 2011

Good morning, Jakarta. Today’s wake up position: me on our bed and the Surgeon on our bedroom’s couch.

Still in his full clothes, if I might add.

Me: ”Pulang jam berapa, Hon?” Him: ”3 kayaknya, ya.” Me: ”Kok nggak bangunin aku? Kenapa tidurnya di sofa?” Him: ”Dengan posisi tidur kamu yang kayak begini?” (Grinning)

Then he showed a picture of me sleeping on his iPhone. Buset memalukan banget. Let’s just say I was a mangap monster yang melintang all over the bed.

Me: ”Beno! Hapus sekarang ya atau kamu nggak akan pernah tidur di kasur kita lagi.” He just laughed, gave me a quick kiss, then ngilang ke kamar mandi.

15 seconds and 1 flush later, he emerged from the bathroom with a smile on his face. Him: ”Masih ngantuk nih, Lex. Boleh tidur, ya?” Me: ”Nggak mau tau, hapus dulu.”

Him: (Nyodorin iPhone-nya) ”Nih hapus sendiri ya, aku ngantuk banget,” dan langsung ngeloyor mendarat on our bed.

As I browsed through his phone, gue baru tau laki gue ini punya hobi nggak penting: motret-motret gue pas gue nggak sadar.

There are at least 50 embarrassing pictures while I was sleeping here. Kurang ajar emang.

28 Februari 2011

I need a vacation. Like right now (Tweet orang yang terjebak di rapat berjam-jam).

Monyet, pamer aja terus. RT @winasoedarjo: Kehidupan lo membosankan ya, Lex? Gue lagi nyoba-nyoba jeans di Yohji.

3 Maret 2011

Dear Pak Beno Wicaksono, you are officially banned from my body. Sincerely, your wife who has been waiting for an hour. Thankyouverymuch.

Dear Penduduk Jakarta, can you survive a day without any heart attack so I can have my husband home by 6? Sincerely, istri dokter yang kesepian.

4 Maret 2011

Our contemplation at breakfast today was whether we're ready to bring a kid into this marriage.

Gue DM aja ya "@winasoedarjo: Ngomong apa si Beno?"

D winasoedarjo Out of nowhere, he said: "Aku liat kamu deket banget dengan anak Wina. Kalau kamu mau punya anak, bilang aku ya." Kaget gue dia tiba-tiba bahas ini.

D winasoedarjo Then he said, "Lex, kalau kamu mau punya anak, bilang aku ya. Kalau belum juga nggak apa-apa. Kapan pun kita siap aja."

D winasoedarjo Jadi gue tanya balik, "Menurut kamu kita udah siap belum, Ben?" Dia diam.

D winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Sebelumnya lo pernah bahas beginian sama si Beno, Lex?

D winasoedarjo Belum, this morning was actually the first time we ever discussed about this since we got married. Clearly an awkward issue for both of us.

D winasoedarjo Awkward karena we're both so busy at work and

can't be home as much as needed to raise a child. I know this sounds nggak enak, tapi keadaannya gitu.

BB hang. DM lagi aja "@winasoedarjo: trus dia jawab apa abis lo ngomong itu? Gue BBM kok nggak bisa sih?"

D winasoedarjo He said something really simple yang bikin gue tenang.

D winasoedarjo "Lex, yang akan mengandung itu kamu. Sebagai suami, kapan kamu siap, aku juga akan siap dan melakukan apa pun untuk jadi ayah yang baik."

D winasoedarjo Do I want to have children? Yes. Am I ready? No. But then again, will we ever be ready?

D winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Well, Lex, let me ask you this, how do you define 'ready' anyway?

D winasoedarjo Exactly, Win.

D winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Jadi lo jawab apa sama laki lo setelah dia ngomong begitu?

D winasoedarjo I just kissed him, lama, then I said, "Hon, ini topiknya terlalu berat untuk Friday morning breakfast."

D winasoedarjo Dia ketawa, "Iya ya." Me: "But thank you for everything you said and for understanding me, ya."

Then I left for work. Dan sejak tadi pagi yang menggantung di pikiran gue cuma satu: Does this morning mean dia yang udah pengen punya anak?

Because he is who he is. He's never good with expressing his feelings.

5 Maret 2011

Nikmatnya baru bangun tidur jam segini. Good morn... err... Good noon, Jakarta :)

So who's going to Java Jazz tonight? Me and the cardiothoracic surgeon are going to be reminiscing about the day we met.

I can't believe it's already been 6 years since we first met. Udah tua dong kite.

After a divorce and two marriages, Beno and I believe that marriage equals work. It doesn't just happen.

There will never be anyone whom we can call a perfect match. Everybody's different, and in dealing with differences, egos play a huge part.

Orang yang sama persis sama kita aja pasti bisa jadi nyebelin, apalagi orang yang beda sama kita. Beno and I? 180 degrees difference.

Tapi gue inget he once said to me, "Kita nggak bisa maksain orang supaya sama kayak kita. Terima aja perbedaan itu sebagai perbedaan kepribadian.

Him: "Asalkan perbedaan itu murni kepribadian aja dan nggak melanggar values kita, diterima aja, Lex. People are human, not some machine we can control...

...Main rule-nya: jangan jadiin differences itu alasan untuk ngeluarin emosi dan starting a conflict."

Ehm... gue ngomong ini sambil menghela napas nahan emosi ngeliat Beno masih main Wii sementara gue udah cantik gini mau ke kawinan temennya.

Catet ya, kawinan temennya, bukan temen gue. Dia yang ngajak jam 2 ke sana dan dia mandi pun belum. Cakep nggak tuh?

Differences. Differences. Differences. *chanting inside my head*

Me: ”Ben, udah jam berapa ini. Mandi doong, biar kita cepetan ke sananya.” Him: ”Siapa suruh tadi mandi duluan? Coba bareng kan kelarnya bareng.”

Me: ”Ih apaan sih. Ini serius. Kan kamu yang pengin pergi jam 2. Ini udah setengah 2.” Him: ”Dikiiit lagi, Lex. Udah mau game nih, bentar ya.”

Me: ”Beno! Aku udah gerah pake kebaya gini. Cepetan dong, Hon.” Him: ”Buka lagi aja, Lex, kalau nggak tahan. 15 menit lagi deh, dikit lagi.”

Dan saudara-saudara, setelah gue pasang muka bete dan duduk tegak di sofa selama setengah jam, guess what he did.

Him: (senyum lebar) ”Tuh udah, kan. Aku mandi quick, ya,” menoleh ke arah gue. ”Kamu cantik banget deh,” nyium gue quick dan ngacir ke kamar mandi.

Ya sudahlah. Namanya juga kawin. Kalau anak buah aja disuruh belum tentu langsung ngerjain, apalagi suami.

Kemayoran is packed! Beno keeps teasing me,”Jangan pingsan, ya.” Sialan.

6 Maret 2011

Quiet Sunday at home and in bed, to be precise: the Surgeon watching Frost/Nixon on HBO while I’m reading the John Lennon edition of *LIFE Magazine*.

Sometimes, I wonder if we’re the only couple that doesn’t have a

song. We love the same kind of music but we never call any song ours.

We left the song selection in the first wedding reception to the band. We both said, ”All jazz and no cheapskate pops.”

And then I remembered one night, a few months after we decided to start dating again which is 2 years after the divorce.

We had been arguing in the restaurant, I forgot about what, and decided to end the dinner early. We walked to the car in silence.

I sat next to him and he drove me home. The only sound in the car is the radio.

Then halfway to my apartment, there was the song *The Long and Winding Road* by The Beatles in the radio.

It wasn’t The Beatles who sang it that night, though. I still don’t know who it was until today.

But what I know was, when the singer sang ”The long and winding road that leads me to your door”, I felt his left hand holding my right.

I remember we didn’t speak for the rest of the night and our only communication was his hand touching mine.

When we reached my apartment, we didn’t say ”bye” or ”seeyoulater”, he just squeezed my hand a little and I squeezed back.

But I knew that when I got off the car, the argument was forgotten, and the next day he called me as if nothing happened.

I guess that’s our song since then, *The Long and Winding Road*.

7 Maret 2011

Life is not fair. I have to be at work by 7:30 while the Heart Surgeon doesn't have to be at the hospital until 9, yet he makes over 20 times what I'm making.

He was awake for like 5 seconds when I got up, and the minute I walked into the shower he's back to his quiet and peaceful snore.

Morning routine: shower, do my hair, get dressed, get the Heart Surgeon's clothes ready, quick breakfast, kissed the sleeping hubby goodbye and I'm off to work. Monday, be kind to me.

I can count with my fingers how many times he said "I love you" in the last marriage, and in this one 10 kali juga nggak nyampe.

But hey, I didn't marry him for his verbal skill, right? :)

Okay, gonna walk into this meeting now. Let's kill this deal!

Oh my dear traffic god, ini serius udah setengah jam nggak gerak-gerak di sini. Craaaaaaaaaap!

And by the way, gue baru sadar gue telat seminggu. Another oh crap.

Saying oh crap sounds so... Oh well, I'm not going to say anything else until I'm sure.

"Biasa aja dong, Mbak, ngeliatnya," is what I should have said to the cashier of the drug store yang menatap gue dengan judgmental waktu gue ke kasir dengan 12 boxes of condoms and 4 testpacks.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Hahaha, lo ya, tatapan mbak-mbak kasir aja diurusin.

@winasoedarjo Ya abis ngeliatin guenya udah kayak ngeliatin anak SMA beli kondom. Or maybe I look that young?

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Halaaah, sadar umur woi! Anyway, gimana hasil testpack-nya?

@winasoedarjo Belum, Win, ini masih terjebak macet. Tinggal seicrit lagi nyampe apartemen tapi masih macet gila aja Sudirman.

@winasoedarjo Now I have to deal with a million what-ifs in my head before I can actually pee on these sticks.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Ngapain pusing sih, kalau hamil juga punya laki ini.

@winasoedarjo Bukan itu masalahnya, dodol.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Iya iya, I was just trying to cheer you up a little bit. Udah pipis aja dulu sana, baru kita ngobrolin gimana-gimananya.

@winasoedarjo Finally home and I've been in the toilet for the last 3 minutes with this stick in my hand. I don't know what to expect, Win.

@winasoedarjo Is it so wrong that all I can think of right now is that, if this is positive, when did we conceive this? We're always careful.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Ehm, always careful, you say? Yakin?

@winasoedarjo Okay, maybe that one time in the car.

@winasoedarjo Or the one after I landed from Balikpapan? Damn, this is killing me.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Hehehe, kok lo jadi ngabsen kekhilafan gini sih, Lex?

@winasoedarjo It's a negative, by the way. I don't know if I should be relieved or sad.

@winasoedarjo I don't even know if this is good news or bad news.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Perasaan lo gimana sekarang?

@winasoedarjo Well, in a way, I'm relieved because I'm nowhere near ready. Nowhere.

@winasoedarjo But on the other hand, will we ever be ready for this thing? A little part of me wished it was positive so I will be forced to be ready.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Darla, nggak usah terlalu jauh mikirnya, nanti lo pusing sendiri. Yang penting sekarang faktanya negatif, ya udah. Are you gonna tell Beno?

@winasoedarjo Nggak perlu juga kali, ya. False alarm ini.

For now, I just wanna soak in these bubbles, listen to Buble, and try to calm myself down from these bubbles of thought inside my head.

The husband was laughing to something on TV when I got out of the bathroom. You didn't know ya, Hon. You were almost a dad.

8 Maret 2011

Now entering the 4th month of me being the Mrs. Wicaksono again. This 2nd marriage feels easier and harder at the same time. Weird.

It's easier because we both knew where, when, and why we failed each other the last time, so we stay clear out of those where, when, and why.

It's harder because... well, you know how tolerating each other more sometimes means you're losing yourself in the process?

Sometimes when we're so at peace with each other like this morning, I wonder...

I wonder if we're like that because we finally find a way to be with each other without wanting to strangle the other one.

Or whether we're trying too hard at this that we just ignore each other's annoying traits. Ignoring, not accepting.

The nachos at Luna Negra is my comfort food.

Wina and I love this place for different reasons. Mine: close to work. Her: checking out hot Citibankers.

Here's our long conversation at lunch:

Yes, I'm gonna twit you transcript-style. Percakapan dengan Wina selalu sinting tapi ada benernya juga.

Wina: "So... positively negative?" Me: "Yeah. Karena stres aja kali telatnya." Her: "Are you happy or sad?" Me: "Not sure."

Her: "Were you both trying?" Me: "No, gue dan Beno sama-sama sepakat nggak punya anak dulu. Eh, Win, lo dulu ama Riza kecelakaan, kan? How did it feel?"

Her: "Kaget setengah mati. Gila, lo kan tau gue dan dia juga nggak rencana. Tapi udah jadi ya harus siap, Lex. Berani berbuat berani bertanggung jawab hehe...

...and you know, Riza delivers at least 5 babies a day, dan begitu pun dia masih stres dan grogi pas gue hamil. But it was a joyful process."

Me: ”But didn’t your life suddenly change completely though? How were you ready?”

Her: ”Aduh, semuanya berubah abis-abisan. Bye bye, New York Fashion Week. Bye bye, Paris Fashion Week. Mana gue masih dibiarin Riza ngejar-ngejar subway.

...but I was welcoming a tiny version of me and Riza, combined, growing inside of me. Lucu and heartwarming, setiap bapaknya ngobrol dengan anaknya yang masih di perut gue.

...dan gue serasa Angelina Jolie tiap jalan di mall, gendong anak gue dan orang-orang curi-curi pandang.”

Me: ”Curi-curi pandang? Narsis parah lo ya.”

Her: ”Eh, lo belum pernah kan liat gue gendong Tiz sambil pake Louboutin?” Me: ”Bukannya rasanya kayak mau terjengkang, ya?” Her: ”Hahaha iya, but I’m hot!”

Her: ”You see, Lex, hidup itu ada stages-nya. One day you’re a hot single woman dan sebelum kadar hotness-nya turun, be somebody’s wife.

...why? Karena being legally unavailable itu the next stage of hotness.” Me: ”Setelah itu?”

Her: ”Why do I need to explain this to you? Be a MILF of course!”

Gelo ya si Wina dodol ini. I’m out for now. Tweet you later.

Anybody wanna switch life with me?

Nama: Alexandra Rhea Wicaksono. Hobi: tidur, belanja, traveling, dan tidur. Pekerjaan: entah apa ini namanya sampe tiap hari pulang jam 10. Kampret!

Oke, gue nyambi satpam sebenarnya. Sama bersih-bersih meja.

Lumayan nambah-nambah buat beli Hermes. *Twit orang stres terjebak rapat bangke*

Tantangan terbesar dalam hidup gue: main Angry Birds di iPad sambil rapat dengan muka serius dan gerakan jari yang anggun.

Oke, pengakuan lagi. Kantor gue ini bukan bank sebenernya. Ini NASA. Tiap orang kerja kayak besok kiamat karena besok meteor mau nabrak bumi.

Tiap pagi ada meteor mau jatuh ke bumi, jadi kami harus pulang selarut mungkin nungguin meteornya belok arah. Kadang sambil disko di meja.

Kabarnya, kalau malam kantor alien tutup karena perbedaan waktu. Karena itu rapat di kantor gue harus dimulai malam, biar nggak disadap alien.

Seorang temen barusan BBM begini: "Udah nge-tweet-nya kayak orang stres. You better go home and get laid, Lex."

Begini ya, gue mau banget pulang sekarang, get laid juga tinggal buka baju, tapi tau nggak kenapa nggak bisa, saudara-saudara? Tau nggak?

Satu: kalau gue pulang dan, trus meteornya nggak belok, kalian semua mati, karena bumi ini meledak. Ini lembur untuk kemaslahatan umat!

Dua: get laid itu membutuhkan 2 orang dan laki gue jam segini masih bedah-bedah jantung orang biar penduduk bumi nggak berkurang dan nggak kalah sama alien.

I think I need to see a psychiatrist.

Dear Cardiothoracic Surgeon, nggak bisa ya kita cari pekerjaan yang normal-normal aja biar sama-sama pulang jam 5 kayak rakyat jelata lainnya? Aku capek kayak gini.

Nggak kece. Gue udah di mobil di parkiran, udah nyalain Paolo Nutini, dan si bos nelepon nyuruh ke atas lagi. Nggak kece!

Okay, this time I am officially driving home. Penting banget ya si bos itu manggil cuma buat ngobrolin urusan besok for 5 minutes.

Today's over. Tomorrow is gonna be the same thing all over again. The trick of staying sane is to make between today & tomorrow meaningful.

Our humble definition of meaningful: 2 hours of being awake around each other like a normal couple. Only 2 hours each day. He's finally home. Good night, Tweeps.

9 Maret 2011

I just woke up to Beno, screaming in the living room. Kirain ngapain, ternyata nonton bola.

Me, ketapel, angry birds, green pigs, Ahmed the driver, and a stack of documents. Off to Bandung for a meeting. Good morning, Universe.

I'm off to Bandung just to see some textile factory. Terima kasih atas simpatinya serta saran untuk berhenti kerjanya. Tapi udah pernah coba duduk di rumah seharian? Bosan.

So that's what work means to me. Just something to do in between weekends.

Beno's BBM just now: ”Lex, balik jam berapa dari Bandung?” Me: ”Jam 7an kali ya. Kenapa, Hon?” Him: ”Bawain cireng, ya.” Me: ”What?!”

Who eats cireng? Apparently, my husband does. Ancur banget nih orang.

1 bungkus cireng, 10 boxes of Bawean (ini orang-orang kantor kurang ajar ya nitipnya), and I'm off to Jakarta.

Sebagai pengobat kekecewaan karena gagal nonton Buble di Singapura tonight because of our work, guess what the Heart Surgeon and I are doing now.

Nonton DVD Michael Buble di Madison Square Garden sambil ngemil cireng.

Correction: I'm watching the DVD. He's just sitting next to me reading *Time Magazine*.

You know when a couple just started dating, they'd do anything to avoid the silence between them?

They'd keep trying to find topics to talk about to minimize the awkward silence.

Because awkward silence drives each one to overthink of what the other one is thinking. ”Kok dia diem aja, ya?” or ”Gue tadi salah ngomong apa?”

But as you both grow up in the relationship, you will come to a point where being around each other tanpa harus ngobrol is okay and normal.

Since the husband is never a conversationalist, I've learned the habit of being with him without ngobrol since we're dating.

Our way is weird but I like it. I love the fact that I'm not with a man who constantly talk about himself.

Sometimes the greatest moments of your life present itself in the form of a nearness to someone you love.

12 Maret 2011

Okay, about the tattoo story. Here it goes.

I didn't tell the Heart Surgeon that the tattoo's gone all throughout the period when we're still hostile, even after we're back dating.

The night he found out was when... this actually kind of private to talk about.

Sialan RT @winasoedarjo: Hahaha, this is going to be interesting. Apakah ceritanya akan sejujur waktu cerita sama gue dulu?

Wina!! RT @winasoedarjo: Ingat, Lex, follower lo banyak yang ABG, jangan rusak mereka dengan cerita lo tentang kelakuan lo dan laki lo. Eh waktu itu udah jadi laki lo nggak? Hahaha."

I will find a way first to make the story twittable. Give me an hour or two.

So is everyone over 18?

Okay here it goes.

One summer in Western Europe, I was hiking on the foothill of Mount Tibbidabo.

Eh itu ceritanya Joey Tribbiani ya, hehehe.

Okay here it goes (serius nih sekarang).

One night, the Heart Surgeon and I were in my apartment. Anggap aja gue sedang sakit dan dia mau meriksa gue, ya.

Wait a second, sakit apa ya yang meriksanya harus di dada?

Monyeeeet! Puas lo, ya! "@winasoedarjo: Usul dong usul! Gimana kalau sakitnya itu dada lo bisulan?"

Kampret nih si Wina. Udah ah, gue mau cerita beneran sekarang.

One night, Beno and I were in my apartment. Anggap aja gue sedang sakit dan dia mau meriksa gue, ya.

Anyway, for the sake of the story, let’s just say I was having a cough and flu, so he needed to see how I was breathing.

The doctor was unbuttoning my shirt when he suddenly realized that the tattoo was not there anymore.

Him: ”Lex, udah nggak ada?” Me: ”Apa?” (Glancing down) ”Oh itu. Iya, Ben.” Him: ”Sejak kapan?”

Me: ”Ehm... udah lama. Around the time we sold rumah Kebagusan.”

Him: ”Dilaser? Di mana? Di Indonesia?” Me: ”Iya, di sini.”

Then he looked at me for like a silent 10 seconds. So I finally said, ”Ben, say something.”

Him: ”Kenapa?” Me: ”Kenapa di Indonesia? Kalau di luar repot, Ben, harus bolak-balik 5 kali.”

Him: ”Bukan, Lex. Kenapa diilangin?”

You know... his question, that one question of why, will be easier to answer if we weren’t dating again.

I mean, if he found out on different circumstances, like dulu waktu dia meriksa gue pas gue sakit, bukan dalam keadaan begini.

...Me: ”Aku butuh lupa dan nggak mungkin aku bisa lupa, kalau tiap aku buka baju ada nama kamu di sini. So I decided to get it removed.”

After I said that, we just sat there. I was looking at him, he was looking down and breathing deeply like he was trying to calm himself.

He then touched my hand and said, ”...kamu... well, kamu punya itu untuk ingat aku, untuk ingat kita. That one drunken night when you got the tattoo...

...tapi ternyata kamu justru pengen lupa ya, Lex.” Me: ”Ben, jangan gitu dong ngomongnya...”

Him: ”Aku pengennya kamu nggak pernah punya alasan untuk ngilangin itu, Lex. Tapi ternyata kamu punya, kan?” Me: ”Beno, bukan gitu...”

Honestly, that night, this thought crossed my mind: Aduh ini orang cowok banget. Diilangin tanda ”I’m his”-nya langsung protes panjang begini.

Padahal pas diilangin juga periode kepemilikannya udah abis ini.

...Him: ”Bagi aku, selama tato itu ada di kamu walau kita udah pisah, somehow kamu itu masih punyaku, Lex. Kamu masih mau ingat aku.”

Me: ”Tapi kamu mau tau nggak rasanya buat aku gimana, Ben? Everytime I looked at that tattoo, it reminded me that you are here but you are not mine...

...it reminded me that you’ve let me go. How do you think that made me feel?” Him: ”Tapi aku kan cuma ngasih yang kamu minta. You’re the one who asked me to let you go.”

At this point, we forgot why we were there on the couch in the first place. War ensued.

Me: ”Ya ampun, Hon. Udah deh. Ini cuma tato doang. Mau ada atau udah nggak ada kan yang penting aku sekarang ada di sini di depan kamu. Nggak cukup?”

He finally smiled after I said that and never brought up the whole tattoo issue again, until—get this—our 2nd wedding night.

But I'm not gonna talk about that.

14 Maret 2011

Miss me? Work has been crazy all day, nothing interesting to tweet unless you want me to tweet the boss' speech.

Langsung di-unfollow massal.

Panic ensues as one of my clients is being approached agressively by bank tetangga sebelah. Nyari berantem nih banknya.

Panic level: udah nonton *Armageddon*? Ibaratnya meteor tinggal 10 kilometer lagi nabrak bumi.

Looks like tonight is going to be hell. Working up a new loan scheme for the client to beat what the competitor bank is offering. In one night.

Kayak bangun satu candi dalam satu malam. Udah kebayang? Udah? Oke, mari ngesot bersama.

Gue mau pulang jam berapa?

Suasana malam ini: the boss in his room waiting for my update, my assistant is crunching the numbers, I'm going through the loan analysis. Yang tebalnya 40 halaman ini.

You still want my job now?

Random thought: I used to be good at swimming in high school. Kalau sekarang jagonya berenang dalam lembah nista pelemburan ini.

Ini memang nista, Wina! Nista! RT @winasoedarjo: Tweets lo nista banget kalau lagi lembur gini, Lex. Malu gue jadi temen lo.

Suddenly I remember this joke that a friend of mine emailed me once.

It's called "The Truth about Being A Banker."

You work very late, just like a prostitute.

They pay you get to make the client happy, just like a prostitute.

When you have to meet the client, you always have to be perfectly groomed. Just like a prostitute.

When people ask you about your job, you have difficulties explaining it, just like a prostitute.

jedutin kepala ke dinding RT @winasoedarjo: Hahaha, those sound just like you, Ibu Wicaksono.

Yay! The boss has okayed the whole thing. Markipul, dan Ahmed, maaf ya saya buat kamu terpisah lama dari anak istri kamu malam ini.

I am fucking tired, pardon my French, and sleepy as hell too.

And I'm hungry. Lupa ternyata tadi belum makan.

I called si Mbok untuk masakin omelette to eat. Wrong move. Ketauan the doctor dan yang bersangkutan barusan nelepon gue sambil marah-marah. Sial.

Kayak lo nggak kenal dia aja. Di DM aja deh "@winasoedarjo: *pukpuk* masih galak aja? LOL. Ngomong apa si dokter galak?"

D winasoedarjo When I picked up the phone, nggak pake halo, langsung ngomong begini: "Kamu belum makan?" Me: "Belum, Hon. Lupa." Him: "Alexandra, beneran deh ya."

D winasoedarjo Him: ”Kamu mau sakit? Udah pulangnya malam terus, pake nggak makan...” Me: ”Hon, udah deh. Aku pusing kalau diomel-omelin di telepon gini.”

D winasoedarjo So we fought again, on the phone, all the way sampe gue nyampe di parkiran apartemen and said: ”Aku udah di bawah. Kalau mau marah-marah aku naik sekarang.”

D winasoedarjo Nggak bisa ya bininya pulang jam segini, capek dari kantor, nggak pake interogasi dan marah-marah?

I'm having a bubble bath in the bathroom. My head is screaming with headache after the fight just now.

There's something that he said that really... well.... RT @winasoedarjo: Bukannya udah biasa ya suka ngomel-ngomel gitu? Tanda sayang, Lex, hehehe.

D winasoedarjo His most hurtful words were: ”Kamu digaji berapa sih ama kantor itu, Lex? Kalau kamu resign juga aku masih sanggup ngasih uang saku segitu.”

D winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw He said that?

D winasoedarjo Iya! Makanya gue marah banget sekarang.

D winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Ckckck, Bapak Beno ini ya kadang-kadang... Udah, Lex, chill, lo sabar aja dulu.

D winasoedarjo Makanya gue ngadem dulu di kamar mandi. Gonna stay here for a while until I don't feel like slapping him in the face.

15 Maret 2011

Okay, mata gue officially bengkak from all the crying last night. Now I'm going to work looking like a hangover rock band groupie.

Spent the whole morning wooing the client to not move to that other bank. All smiles and all that. Did I pull it off? Yes I did. They stay.

You know, most bankers deserve something like Academy Awards because they're all such good actors and actresses.

Mau mood sejelek apa pun, we have to be all smiles and professional and enthusiastic in front of the clients.

It takes zillions of patience and kadang-kadang emang harus tambeng.

In my case, setengah mati rasanya harus senyum-senyum ceria gini after the huge fight with hubby last night.

The honorable cardiothoracic surgeon made it sound as if lembur itu my choice. Come on. Siapa yang nggak emosi coba?

His most hurtful words?

”Kamu digaji berapa sih ama kantor itu, Lex? Kalau kamu resign juga aku masih sanggup ngasih uang saku segitu.”

Argh. Emosi gue.

Me: ”Ini maksudnya mau nyuruh aku resign? Thanks ya, Ben. Udah mengingatkan bahwa kamu sanggup bayar aku.”

Then he went on saying that's not what he meant. Whatever he really meant, those words still hurt.

Me, bubble bath, and Sting's Tuscany concert on DVD is my choice of calming down therapy for the night.

Ngomong gampang. RT @winasoedarjo: Udah, Nyet. Kayak gue bilang tadi. Ngalah aja. Anggap aja dia emang emotionally handicapped untuk menghadapi lo.

Okay, what happened just now left me speechless.

There's a knock on the bathroom door, I just ignored it. Somebody opened the door and it was the doctor, looking tired.

Kaget gue. I was still in the tub. He looked at me for a second, then he came over, leaned in, touched my head and kissed my forehead.

Then he said: "Kalau marah jangan lama-lama ya, Lex."

Segitu doang. Then he walked out of the bathroom sementara gue bengong.

Ladies and gentlemen, my husband.

16 Maret 2011

Home. Bubble bath. Lenny Kravitz. I'm all set.

So the busiest surgeon in Jakarta just got home 10 minutes ago and apparently, this is his idea of "ngomongin sesuatu".

No, worse. RT @winasoedarjo: Ngomongin apa sih? Diomelin lagi lo ya?

@winasoedarjo I just got out of the bathroom in my bathrobe when he showed up dengan muka lempeng tanpa ekspresi. He came over and hugged me.

@winasoedarjo Then he said this: "Maafin yang kemaren ya, Lex. Aku nggak seharusnya bikin kamu nangis. Aku... well, kamu tau aku nggak pinter ngomong beginian.

@winasoedarjo ...Aku cuma nggak bisa liat kamu lembur terus dan nggak jaga diri. Itu aja. Tapi kalau kamu emang seneng dengan kerjaan kamu, aku seneng asal kamu juga. @winasoedarjo ...Tapi aku minta kamu ikut rules aku ya, Lex. Kalau aku minta kamu lapor

ke aku kamu lagi di mana, kalau aku minta kamu harus sama sopir, tolong nurut ya."

@winasoedarjo Gue disuruh wajib absen mulai sekarang, Wina! I'm not some elementary school kid, for God's sake!

Heh!!! RT @winasoedarjo: Iya, gue tau. Lo kan corporate whore.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw LOL just kidding, Ibu Alexandra. Serius banget sih sekarang, sama kayak suaminya.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Lo ngomong apa waktu dia mengumumkan "rules" barunya itu?

@winasoedarjo Gue bilang bahwa itu namanya absen dan gue nggak suka. He's my husband, not my parole officer.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Hah? You called him "parole officer" to his face?

@winasoedarjo Gila lo, nggak lah! Cuma berani dalam hati gue yang itu.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Memangnya lo ngapain sih, Lex, sampai laki lo bikin aturan absen-absen ini? Cuma gara-gara lo lembur terus lupa makan itu?

@winasoedarjo Iya.

@winasoedarjo Well, dia sih ngomongnya ke gue: "Aku sibuk, aku nggak bisa merhatiin kamu seharian. Jadi kalau aku tau kamu di mana, dan kamu malam-malam nggak sendirian di jalan, itu cukup bikin aku tenang. Boleh ya suami kamu ini minta kamu nurut?"

@winasoedarjo Gue males berantem jadi gue iyain aja.

@winasoedarjo Jadi demikianlah, saudara-saudara, mulai besok saya wajib lapor kepada suami saya.

@winasoedarjo You know, honestly, this is kind of insulting.

@winasoedarjo Demi apa zaman sekarang masih ada rules lapor-lapor begitu antara suami-istri. Just so you know ya, Ben, aku nurut cuma karena aku sayang kamu, bukan karena mau.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Bagian ”just so you know dan seterusnya” itu diomongin langsung dong sama orangnya :))))

@winasoedarjo Ppppffttt.... Udah ah, gue mau tidur. Besok pagi-pagi harus nyari mesin absen buat dipasang di badan gue. Ada nggak ya handkey portabel gitu?

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Hahaha, sableng! Tidur sana!

19 Maret 2011

My insomnia is back. The busiest surgeon in Jakarta has fallen asleep next to me.

Demi apa gue jam segini belum bisa tidur juga padahal badan ini capek secapek-capeknya? Dan besok akad nikah si Ario jam 10 pagi.

Ario itu temen kuliah gue yang ternyata temen Beno juga. Yang ngenalin gue dan Beno pertama kali di Java Jazz itu.

Jadi nggak mungkin kan gue dan hubby nggak muncul pagi-pagi? Akad nikah jam 10 berarti gue harus udah nyalon jam 7 pagi.

And I probably need at least half an hour in the shower to scrub keisengan the Heart Surgeon on my breast. Timing kamu jelek banget, Hon.

Tidur jam 1, bangun jam 6, 45 menit mandi ngilangin tato ecek-ecek ini, ke salon jam 7, now Ahmed is driving me back home.

Meanwhile, Beno is still sound asleep. Sialan ya. Sometimes I think enak banget jadi laki-laki, kalau mau beracara tinggal mandi and he's ready.

Tebak dong, Beno just called me: "Lex, aku bangun kok kamu nggak ada. Kamu di mana? Ada sarapan apa? Aku pake batik yang mana?" Aduuhh... grrrrr.

Pertanyaan ini bisa dijawab gampang ama si Mbok karena: 1. Mbok tau gue ke salon. 2. Mbok yang bikinin sarapan. 3. Mbok yang gue suruh nge-laundry batiknya yang bersangkutan.

Congrats to Ario Tedjasukmana and Intania Schultz. Sah! Halal! ;)

21 Maret 2011

Touchdown Changi. I thought this only happens in movies but I somehow sat next to Denny on the plane. Some shit the universe is throwing.

Yeah, Denny, my ex. Kayak nggak ada orang lain aja. Duduk sebelahan sama Robert Downey, Jr. gitu kek.

Will tell you all about it later. Now the clients have picked me up and I'm off to do this OTS all day.

Today's itinerary: dock visit as soon as I landed, lunch with clients, meeting with other clients, then dinner with the clients.

Semoga di antara itu sore-sorenya bisa napping for an hour or two at the hotel.

Akhirnya balik ke hotel juga. Conrad bed, my body needs you.

I BBM-ed the Surgeon, the usual absen, plus the words: "Hon, telepon aku kalau kamu udah nggak sibuk, ya." Hhhh... BBM-nya read juga belum.

Is it weird that I feel a bit guilty for having this long talk with Denny all throughout the flight?

And somehow I believe that ngobrol lama dengan the Heart Surgeon on the phone mengurangi rasa guilty itu. I know this is silly.

What did we talk about? Cuma saling nanya kabar. Denny asked me how I've been, then he told me how he's been. The whole New York life and after that.

What's weird is being the receiving end of his attention, no matter how small and subtle it was.

Like when he said: "Muka kamu capek banget, Lex, masih suka pulang malem? Take care of yourself dong, Lex, jangan sampe sakit."

And some other stuff he said during the conversation, yang cuma bisa gue tanggapi dengan ketawa bercanda.

Damn, kalau hubby baca tweets ini, dia udah langsung terbang ke sini kali malam ini juga untuk geret gue pulang.

No, belum ketemu yang cocok katanya. RT @winasoedarjo: Udah kawin belum tuh orang?

Bibir kayak begini nih yang jangan sampe didenger laki gue. RT @winasoedarjo: Belon ketemu yang kayak lo maksudnya? Hihihi.

Guess whose BBM just arrived on my phone.

Denny: "Lex, kamu masih sibuk? Nanti malam ada acara nggak?"

Read. Not replied. Gue tidur sore dulu, ya. Tweet you later.

Aduh kalian udah kayak polisi deh. Gue dan Denny emang punya PIN BB masing-masing sejak dulu, cuma nggak pernah BBM-an lagi sejak kami putus. *pusing baca kolom mention*

It was a call from the Heart Surgeon that woke me up just now.

Him: ”Lex, kamu nggak apa-apa? Kenapa tiba-tiba minta aku telepon? Kamu sakit?” Me: ”Nggak apa-apa, Hon. Aku pengen ngobrol aja.” Him: ”Beneran nggak sakit? Kecapekan?”

Me: ”Nggak. Cuma pengen ngobrol aja. Kamu ke mana aja baru nelepon sekarang, Hon?” Him: ”Aku back-to-back surgery tadi. Ini di mana?” Me: ”Di hotel, nap bentar sebelum—”

Him: ”Lex, aku boleh telepon lagi nanti? Aku harus rush ke satu operasi lagi sekarang.” Me: ”Hon...” Him: ”Nanti malam ya, aku janji,”... and he hung up.

Ya sudahlah. I have to get ready for dinner with the clients anyway. Ada yang udah pernah ke Equinox?

Equinox itu resto letaknya di lantai 70, kabarnya bisa keliatan kepulauan Indonesia dan Malaysia dari situ.

Done with dinner with the clients. Checked the BlackBerry for messages from the busiest surgeon in Jakarta, none of course.

I guess that’s why I call him the busiest surgeon in Jakarta.

And instead, I found this.

Denny: ”Masih ingat Indy dan Dewa? Kami lagi mau ke Pangea. Come join us. I know you’re bored with all the work stuff already, right?”

Indy dan Dewa itu a couple of his friends that we hung out with when we were dating. I just read the message and didn’t reply.

Then another BBM arrived: ”Beno nggak bakalan marah, kan?”

If you must know, I am going back to the hotel, and I replied Denny’s BBM with this: ”Thanks for the offer, but I’m gonna pass, Den.”

Dia bilang: ”Ya udah. Aku masih di Singapura seminggu ini.” RT @winasoedarjo: Dibales apa sama dia?

I know, nggak akan gue bales-bales lagi nih BBM-nya. RT @winasoedarjo: Buset, kode banget tuh orang.

Back at the hotel. Bubble bath, it is then.

Hahaha, kiss kiss for Tiz ya. RT @winasoedarjo: Tante Alex jangan nakal, ya. Tidur aja kayak aku.

Wina’s little Tiz is so cute, isn’t she?

It’s almost midnight in Singapore. Gue udah ketiduran waktu the Surgeon called me 10 minutes ago and said dia baru pulang dari rumah sakit.

22 Maret 2011

Lunch at Nogawa.

Eh that was meant to be as BBM laporan to the husband.

Beno: ”Nogawa? Aku lunch di kantin rumah sakit.” Me: ”Kasian deh.” Him: ”Ledekin aja. Lex, pulang dong ntar malem.”

Me: ”Diusahain ya, soalnya harusnya flight besok pagi.” Him: ”Diusahain dong, Lex.” Me: ”Lagian percuma juga pulang nanti malem, kamunya nggak pulang-pulang dari rumah sakit.”

Him: ”Kalau kamu pulang nanti malem, aku sendiri yang jemput ke bandara.” Me: ”Tumben kamu siang-siang bolong janji-janji rayu gini.” Him: ”Ini beneran, Lex.”

Kesambet apa orang ini? Jadi nggak enak di gue, kan. Me: ”Iya, Hon. Diusahain.” Him: ”Telepon aku kalau jadi. Udah ya. Ada pasien.”

5 years of knowing this guy, I can count with the fingers in one hand how many times he has personally picked me up from the airport. Sisanya driver.

Abis baca tips ini, kali dia ya hehe. RT @DailySexTips: Treat your spouse like they've had a hard day even if you know they haven't.

Seriously, I think I'm also gonna call Ahmed to come to the airport in case the Surgeon can't live up to his promise. Jahat nggak sih?

Ih gue kan cuma jaga-jaga seandainya dokter paling sibuk sedunia itu ingkar janji. RT @winasoedarjo: JAHAT!

Me to Ahmed: "Jangan bilang Bapak kamu juga jemput saya, ya. Jadi kamu stand by aja di bandara jam 22.30. Nanti kalau Bapak nggak datang baru saya ikut kamu."

Ahmed: "Jadi maksudnya, Bu?" Me: "Kamu parkir dan tunggu di mobil aja. Jangan keliatan di gate. Nanti saya telepon apakah saya ikut Bapak atau ikut kamu."

Ini bukan nggak percaya sama suami sendiri ya, ini namanya back up plan. Lunch aja pake back up plans, apalagi ini.

Quick bite then I'm off to Changi. This has been an exhausting business trip. But guess who just BBM-ed me.

"I'm at the coffee place you love in Dempsey. Remember the last time we were here on that weekend getaway?" RT @winasoedarjo: Pasti si Denny lagi. Ngomong apa dia sekarang?

@winasoedarjo Aduh, kalau yang model begini nggak bisa didiemin lagi. Harus ditegasin.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Ya iyalah harus ditegesin. Kalau lo masih layanin aja BBM-nya, gue lapor ke si galak ya.

@winasoedarjo Heh! Nggak usah bawa-bawa si Beno ya, abis nanti gue diomelin sama dia.

@winasoedarjo But a little part of me, honestly, feels sorry for Denny. It was a bit cruel the way I ended it with him that night he asked me to move to New York with him.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Dulu pas si Beno yang jadi mantan lo kejam banget, sekarang sama si Denny justru kasihan.

@winasoedarjo Kampret, pake bawa-bawa masa lalu, lagi. Nih, udah gue balas BBM si Denny dengan kejam ya, biar lo puas!

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Lo balas apa?

@winasoedarjo Me: ”Den, I can’t do this.” Him: ”Do what?” Me: ”Sori ya kalau abis ini lo gue delete dari BBM contact.” Him: ”What’s wrong, Lex?”

@winasoedarjo Me: ”I’m married now and nggak nyaman buat gue terima BBM kayak begini dari lo.” Him: ”I’m just doing this as friends, Lex. That’s okay, right?”

@winasoedarjo Argh, capek banget gue menjelaskan ke si Denny ini. So I said, ”Have fun in Singapore.” *Contact deleted*

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Hahaha, lo kejamnya nggak nanggung-nanggung ya, langsung main delete contact aja.

Boarding SQ 968. I just BBM-ed the Surgeon: ”Honey, aku boarding ya. See you soon.” Semoga dia jemput beneran. Tweet you later.

23 Maret 2011

I hate those nights when I woke up in the middle of the night, looked at you who’s asleep next to me, and the thought that hit me is...

...untung aku sayang banget sama kamu ya, Hon, kalau nggak...

Breakfast: coffee, toasts, and Aspirin. Massive headache from last night.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Ini ada apa lagi? Berantem lagi lo?

@winasoedarjo Menurut lo? *lelah*

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Hhh apa lagi sekarang masalahnya?

@winasoedarjo Jadi tadi malem ya, Win, gue kan landing jam setengah sebelas malam, udah capek dan ngantuk.

@winasoedarjo When I stepped off the plane, I told myself: "Okay, you're gonna wait around for Beno for 15 minutes. Kalau nggak ada langsung cabut sama Ahmed."

@winasoedarjo So as I strolled down the airport with my carry-on, I called the guy. The line was busy.

@winasoedarjo Itu nggak bikin kaget juga. He's almost never available when I call anyway. Ilmu "managing expectations" yang diajarin kantor berguna juga.

@winasoedarjo Ahmed, on the other hand, had texted me: "Bu, saya sudah standby di parkiran."

@winasoedarjo Yang bikin kaget adalah, when I got to the arrival terminal, Beno was actually there, busy talking on the phone. I came up to him, he looked serious and from what I heard he was on a call with somebody from the hospital.

@winasoedarjo Nggak pake senyum, still on the phone, he kissed me quick on the cheek, ngambil luggage dari tangan gue, and walked to the car. I followed.

@winasoedarjo Ya sudahlah, yang penting he lived up to his promise. He's on the phone all the way to the car, so I had time to text Ahmed untuk pulang aja.

@winasoedarjo So we were in the car, he finished talking on the phone and drove, masih diem dan muka tanpa ekspresi kayak biasanya. Katanya kangen tapi begini.

Gue DM aja ya yang selanjutnya. "@winasoedarjo: Trus? Trus? *siap memantau cerita sambil ngunyah popcorn*"

D winasoedarjo Gue tanya, Win: "Kamu kenapa? Capek ya?" Him: "Nggak apa-apa. Udah makan?" Me: "Udah, Hon." Him: "Langsung pulang jadi, ya." Then, diem lagi.

D winasoedarjo I thought to myself, ini pasti ada apa-apanya.

D winasoedarjo So I said (tulus loh ini, nggak palsu): "Hon, maaf ya aku merepotkan kamu jemput ke bandara malam-malam gini. Kamu pasti capek banget dari rumah sakit, kan."

D winasoedarjo Him: "Nggak perlu minta maaf, kan aku yang janji." Then, diem. Buset ini orang kenapa lagi.

D winasoedarjo After maybe 3 to 5 minutes of silence, which seemed like forever, he finally said this: "Lex, susah ya buat kamu untuk percaya janji aku?"

Bawel, gue bilang juga di DM aja "@winasoedarjo: Kapan damainya lo berdua, ya?"

D winasoedarjo Gue lanjut, ya. Waktu dia ngomong itu, gue dalam hati oh crap apa lagi ini. Me: "Maksudnya apa, Hon?"

D winasoedarjo Him: "Si Ahmed ngapain juga disuruh ke bandara pakai mobil kamu?"

D winasoedarjo Damn, mati gue. Ini ketauan dari mana.

D winasoedarjo Me: (Nggak ada gunanya juga pura-pura nggak tau ada si Ahmed) ”Ehm, gini, Hon. Aku cuma minta Ahmed standby aja seandainya kamu ada emergency di rumah sakit dan nggak bisa.”

D winasoedarjo Him: (In his low, calm voice yang malah nyeremin) ”Nggak percaya kalau aku bilang mau jemput berarti aku beneran mau jemput?”

D winasoedarjo: Setelah si Beno ngomong gitu, Win, I tried to remain calm and respond like this.

D winasoedarjo ”Honey, bukan gitu. Kan Ahmed cuma back up, aku tau kamu kadang-kadang ada emergency yang nggak memungkin-kan untuk jemput aku. Ya aku siap-siap back up aja...”

D winasoedarjo Aneh kan, Win, masa gitu aja jadi masalah. Gue ngomong lagi: ”Jadi jangan dimasalahin gini dong, Hon, ini kan sederhana aja.”

D winasoedarjo Lo tau laki tercinta gue itu jawab apa? ”Memang sederhana aja. Aku cuma nanya memangnya susah ya buat kamu untuk percaya janji aku?”

D winasoedarjo ”...Aku yang minta kamu pulang, aku yang janji mau jemput kamu. Sebagai suami kamu, aku nggak suka kalau kamu masih merasa bahwa kalau aku ngomong gitu, kamu nggak yakin.”

D winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Gue bilang juga apa, Lexy, ngapain lo pake back up si Ahmed segala. Marah kan anak orang.

D winasoedarjo Gue kan nyuruh Ahmed juga karena gue ngerti pekerjaan dia yang tiba-tiba ada emergency entah apalah itu.

D winasoedarjo Gue bilang ke dia: ”Ben, can you please look at it from my point of view? Aku justru memahami pekerjaan kamu makanya aku juga nyuruh Ahmed...”

D winasoedarjo Gue nggak tahan dengan resenya laki gue ini, so this is embarrassing for me to admit, but I started crying in the car.

D winasoedarjo I cried there for like a minute until he said something. Ini masih di sepanjang tol bandara. Him: ”Yang, jangan nangis dong. Ya?”

D winasoedarjo FYI, ini bukan sekadar senjata, ya. Gue beneran nggak tahan dengan kelakuan dan pertanyaannya mempermasalahkan yang nggak esensial ini.

D winasoedarjo Beno didn’t say anything, jadi gue pejam mata aja pura-pura tidur—yang penting nggak perlu ngobrol lagi daripada ribut.

D winasoedarjo Ternyata tidur dengan mata basah gitu susah. So I ended up just closing my eyes and I still couldn’t fall asleep.

D winasoedarjo I was pretending to be asleep in the car, and suddenly I felt his hand holding mine. He didn’t say anything, he just did that.

D winasoedarjo I just kept on closing my eyes. Then we got back to the apartment, he woke me up. Him: ”Lex, udah nyampe ya.”

I know, Win. Well, he did apologize. Or something like it. RT @winasoedarjo: Ya udah, mungkin dia merasa tersinggung aja udah niat jemput malah lo panggil sopir. Sekarang udah baik-baik aja, kan?

D winasoedarjo He got into bed, hugged me from behind, and said: ”Lex, masih bangun?” Me: ”Iya.”

D winasoedarjo Him: ”Aku cuma mau bilang, kalau aku bilang ke kamu aku mau melakukan A buat kamu, itu artinya aku benar-benar akan melakukan A buat kamu.”

D winasoedarjo I didn't say anything or even glanced at him. Then he went on: "Udah aku mau bilang itu aja. Good night ya, Sayang."

D winasoedarjo I know there's no sorry in those words at all, but to me it's enough. It's the only thing I can expect from this guy.

D winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Tuh pinter, memang si Beno orangnya begitu kan dari dulu juga? Kenapa kaget?

D winasoedarjo Iya iya.

24 Maret 2011

Here's what he said on the phone to me just now.

Beno: "Lex, jangan lupa nanti malam jangan lembur, ya. Ada anniversary dinner-nya Bapak dan Ibu." Me: (dalam hati: oh crap) "Mau berangkat jam berapa, Hon?"

Him: "Jam 6.30 aku jemput ke apartemen ya. Dharmawangsa agak-agak macet soalnya." Me: "Oke."

Don't get me wrong, I absolutely love his parents. It's the tante(s) that I wanna push over a bridge sometimes.

The tante(s), there are 2 of them, 1 adiknya Beno's mom, 1 lagi adik iparnya. They're what you would call typically ibu-ibu arisan Indonesia.

You know that during the 1st marriage that lasted 3 years, the Surgeon and I didn't have any kid, tiap ketemu they kept on asking...

The tante(s): "Alexandra, kapan nih Tante dikasih ponakan? Kamu and Beno itu mikirnya kerjaan mulu sih. Udah pengen gendong-gendong nih. Pasti anak kamu lucu deh."

Me: (Senyum palsu) ”Iya, Tante. Belum nih.” Dalam hati gue bilang, kalau mau gendong yang lucu, gue kasih boneka Sule aja. Mau lo?

One time, gue pernah jawab dengan jujur supaya nggak rese ditanya-tanya lagi: ”Aku dan Beno memang belum mau punya anak dulu, Tante. Mau berdua aja dulu.”

Yang ada malah dijawab begini: ”Aduuuh... mau nunggu sampe kapan? Beno itu umurnya udah hampir 40. Kamu udah berapa?” Gue pikir, sialan malah ditanyain umur.

Tante number two: ”Kalau ditahan-tahan malah nanti jadi mandul loh.” Dalam hati gue bilang, what?! Kurang ajar banget kan doanya!

Setelah berpuluh-puluh kali mengalami ini, I have found that the easiest way to survive is by having a glass of wine before I meet them.

Laugh and smile as fake as I can everytime they start asking the questions. Then, pelan-pelan melipir and ngancem Beno to take me home.

Komen paling kurang ajar dari the tante(s): ”Nggak usah takut badan kamu melar gara-gara hamil, nanti juga balik lagi kok.” I was like what?! Lo pikir alasan gue itu?!

Doa hari ini: semoga the tante(s) lagi sariawan atau radang tenggorokan jadi nggak berisik. Amin.

Bismillah. Mari menuju acara talkshow bertopik ”Kenapa Belum Hamil Juga, Alexandra?”

I swear kalau ada yang mempertanyakan kesuburan gue, akan gue declare berapa pack condoms yang gue dan laki gue habiskan dalam seminggu!

I was talking to Beno's mom about whatever when the other tante tiba-tiba gabung and said:

Tante to Beno's mom: "Mbakyu, seneng deh ngeliat sampe sekarang masih cantik dan seger. Udah punya semua, tinggal kurang cucu aja kan, ya."

Gue pengen manggil Ibu Dara untuk menyate dua tante yang mulutnya comel ini.

Gue bayar handbag satu aja, mau nggak lo? RT @winasoedarjo: I can be Ibu Dara, asal bayarannya cocok *wink*

Banget, Winaaa! RT @winasoedarjo: Hahahaha, lagi panas beneran ya lo.

Finally home. Tired. Sleepy. A bit bete dan sebel. Beno is in the bathroom. I need to tweet this shit out.

The nicest thing he did for me, maybe the nicest since we tied the knot again is this...

When we got home, before he went into the bathroom, he hugged me lama banget without saying anything.

Then in the end just before he let go, he said this: "Makasih ya, Sayang, kamu udah sabar."

For me, udah nggak penting lagi orang-orang and the tante(s) ngomong apa pun after that.

The guy that I love just walked out of the bathroom. BB needs to retire. Good night, Twitterverse.

27 Maret 2011

Big congrats to my evil bestfriend @winasoedarjo for getting knocked up again. The MILF is pregnant again!

Walau dengan mulut yang sering ingin dibekap dengan kain dicelup sambal, Wina itu gede banget jasanya dalam mendamaikan gue dan Beno dulu.

Wina dan lakinya, Riza, lebih tepatnya.

You know the night after Wina gave birth to Tiz? The night where Beno asked me to eat with him at nasi goreng Sabang?

It took almost 6 months from that night until he and I started being civilized to each other alias nggak mau bunuh-bunuhan lagi.

The turning point was when Wina and Riza had us (and some other friends) for dinner at their new house, 3 months after that night.

I got a phone call that my mother had a heart attack and was being rushed to the hospital. I was, of course, in shock.

Beno was also at Wina's house when we received the news. He immediately took the initiative to drive me to the hospital.

The one thing that I remember most about that night was when we got to the hospital, before he went into the emergency...

...he looked at me and said: "Lex, kamu nggak apa-apa aku tinggal? Aku mau ikut ke dalam nolong ibu kamu, tapi kalau kamu butuh aku temani, aku di sini aja."

I said: "Please just help Ibu ya, Ben." Him: "Beneran kamu nggak apa-apa?" Me: "Iya." Him: "Ya udah."

That night was a nightmare. In the end, the doctors pulled through and my mother was out of danger.

Anyway, long story short, it was during my mother's recovery process that Beno and I talked a lot, nggak pake bentak-bentakan lagi.

So, since then, awalnya gue ketemu Beno cuma kalau dia ngecek my mom, rutin every 2 weeks.

We were no longer hostile toward each other, tapi waktu itu nggak ada apa-apa, we mostly just talked about my mom or said hi. Setelah itu Wina dan Riza mulai sering, at least sebulan sekali, ngajak gue dan Beno untuk lunch or dinner during the weekend.

Kebaca banget sih niat mereka berdua untuk mendekatkan gue dan Beno lagi di luar "pertemuan resmi" kalau dia sedang meriksa nyokap gue.

I remember saying this to Wina: "Win, udah deh. Ngapain coba lo sama laki lo harus sering-sering ngajak gue dinner sama Beno? Mau jodohin kami lagi?"

To which Wina said: "Geer banget ya lo, Nyet."

Wina: (senyum-senyum) "Jangan terlalu benci sama orang, Lex, ntar kualat." Me: "Amit-amit. Nggak dua kali deh ya."

Kualat beneran ternyata gue ya ;)

Anyway, kalau diceritain rincinya panjang banget. Yang jelas I think during those dinners, we both got to experience each other again as adults.

Not just as exes who constantly argued, or as doctor and patient. Thanks to Wina dan Riza. It was definitely not instant.

Then one night, the four of us were out wine and dining at Cork & Screw. None of us were drunk, really, tapi ya a bit intoxicated.

At the end of the night, Beno, knowing my history of not being able to handle my alcohol well, offered to drive me home.

Him: ”Lex, mobil kamu tinggal di sini aja, ya. I don’t think you should drive.” Me: ”Aku masih bisa nyetir kok.”

Nothing happened that night though, we had some laughs, he dropped me home, I said thanks and got off the car.

But since that night, the way we communicated gradually change, nggak sekaku atau secanggung sebelumnya.

Sleepy as hell, nggak sanggup nungguin si dokter bedah paling sibuk se-Jakarta itu pulang. Night all.

28 Maret 2011

A beautiful Monday is jam segini udah keluar kantor dan menuju spa bareng @winasoedarjo. Coba tiap hari begini, ya.

Gue dan Wina terbaring menikmati mbak-mbak massaging our feet. Love this.

Dan Beno pun mengabsen lagi, dengan pesan: ”Tungguin aku pulang setengah sebelas malam, ada yang mau diomongin.”

Kadang gue heran kenapa gue bisa sahabatan sama si Wina sableng ini.

Gue bilang: ”Rese nih si Beno, dari tadi ngomongnya mau ngomongin sesuatu nanti malam tapi nggak mau ngomong sekarang. Apa ya?”

Malah dijawab: ”Kalau lo nanya gue sih ya, paling mau ngomong gini, Lex, ’Ada dokter cantik baru di rumah sakit, kayaknya aku lebih cocok sama dia. Aku boleh nikah lagi?’”

Abis nge-tweet ini gue mau bikin sambal buat nyambal bibir lo sih. RT @winasoedarjo: Hahahaha, saking dendamnya sampai di-tweet!

Home. So relaxed from the spa. I think I'm gonna fall asleep as soon as I meet the pillow.

Okay, I think I'm gonna tweet the shit out of it daripada ketiduran padahal disuruh nungguin.

More after the Cork and Screw night out with Wina, Riza, and Beno, right?

Well after that, I never thought this was possible by the way, we became... can I say friends? Not really, but here's the thing...

You know how he always works until late at night in the hospital? During that period, I also drown myself with work until late at night.

Kalau udah pulang lembur jam 10 ke atas gitu, there's practically nowhere left to eat other than some 24-hour fast food place and Nasi Goreng Sabang.

So sometimes, kalau gue sedang bosan dengan menu lembur di kantor yang bakmi-bakmi melulu, I stopped by at the nasi goreng Sabang to eat before I drove home.

Since that's like also his favorite nasi goreng, eventually one night when I went there, he was already there, eating alone.

He was surprised to see me too. Him: "Loh kamu makan di sini juga? Jam segini?" It was almost 11 PM, by the way.

Me: "Iya, abis lembur tadi. Kamu baru pulang dari rumah sakit juga?" Him: "Iya. Sering ke sini, Lex?" Me: "Kalau iseng abis lembur aja."

Gue biasanya bungkus dan makan di apartemen sambil nonton TV

dan winding down. Tapi malam itu he asked: ”Mau takeaway, ya?” Me: ”Umm... iya.” Him: ”Makan di sini aja bareng.”

So we did, and we talked. He told me stories about his day at work, and I told him mine. Then he drove home, and I drove home.

Biasa aja, nggak ada apa-apa. During the next 2 months, tanpa janjian, kita ada kali 8 or 10 times nggak sengaja ketemu di situ dan ended up makan bareng.

You know, kalau lo hidup di kantor kayak gue, punya seseorang yang mau dengerin cerita kita tentang kekesalan seharian at the end of the day itu bikin lega banget. That’s what Beno did for me. Kalau pulang dari ”disiksa” di kantor, dan ketemu dia dan bisa cerita dikit, it helped me sleep better at night.

And later when we started really dating, he told me that the best way for him to wind down after a hard day at work was to talk to me.

My God, Wina, pake istilah CLBK bikin ketauan umur kita aja! RT @winasoedarjo: Cieee yang lagi nostalgia CLBK.

Lama-lama seandainya gue ke situ dan dia nggak ada, gue merasa kehilangan. Tapi males banget kan harus BBM dia untuk nanya: ”Kok kamu malam ini nggak ada?”

Until there was this period when I didn’t go there for almost two weeks karena dinas keluar kota. 10 PM on a Thursday and he suddenly BBM-ed me.

He said: ”Lex, aku di Sabang dan abang nasgornya nyariin kamu. Ke mana aja?”

I replied: ”Bilang sama abangnya, aku abis dari Surabaya dan Kalimantan dan ini baru mau pulang dari bandara. Kamu di sana?” Him: ”Iya, kamu udah makan?”

He said he would wait up if I wanted to stop by. And I did. So we ate then we talked until almost midnight. Obrolan our lives selama 2 minggu nggak ketemu.

Hahaha iya kali, ya. RT @winasoedarjo: Gue rasa sih si Beno naruh pelet buat lo di nasi goreng itu, Darl, abis dulu juga pertama dibawa nge-date di situ juga, kan?

Anyway, since then, kalau mau ke sana, dia ngabarin gue and vice versa. Bukan sekadar nggak sengaja ketemu kayak sebelum-sebelumnya.

You know, those simple conversations that we had whenever we ate there had become our way to stay sane in our busy, demanding lives.

Seingat gue, dulu juga when we first dated, even in our first marriage, connection yang ada di antara gue dan dia nggak sedekat itu.

Wong dulu kita nggak pernah listen to each other.

Eh, tweet you later. The busiest surgeon in Jakarta is home. Good night, Twitterverse.

30 Maret 2011

Woke up to the Surgeon sleeping next to me still in his full clothes. Pulang jam berapa orang ini tadi malam, ya?

Gue rasa sih dia nyambi jadi satpam, kali. Mana pake berantem lagi kemarin. RT @winasoedarjo: Twit ratapan istri yang suaminya nggak pulang-pulang banget sih lo.

Gara-gara nasi goreng Sabang. *facepalm* RT @winasoedarjo: AGAIN? Apa lagi masalahnya sekarang?

Entahlah, Wina, entahlah *emoticon muka desperate ada nggak sih?* RT @winasoedarjo: Hah? Nggak ada topik berantem yang lebih penting?

@winasoedarjo Tadi malem, pas dia masih di RS, dia BBM gue nanyain udah tidur apa belum, dan lagi ngapain.

@winasoedarjo So I answered honestly, ”Lagi di Sabang. Beli nasi goreng.”

@winasoedarjo And, dengan lebainya, ini orang nelepon gue marah-marah. Him: ”Sendirian?” Me: ”Iya. Masa bawa-bawa si Mbok?” Him: ”Aduh, Lex. Ngapain sih nyetir sendiri malam-malam begini? Ini udah jam 12. Yang bener aja kamu.”

@winasoedarjo Gue males dong diomelin nggak jelas gitu, jadi gue bilang, ”Udah deh. Kalau kamu mau lembur di rumah sakit ya lembur aja sana. Nggak usah berisik ngurusin beginian. Aku nggak apa-apa.”

@winasoedarjo Lo tau dia merepet apa? ”Bikin pusing aja kamu itu, ya. Gimana aku mau ninggalin kamu jauh sebulan kalau baru dibilangin begini aja susah banget?”

New York, Win. *nangis* RT @winasoedarjo: Loh, emang lo mau ditinggal ke mana?

@winasoedarjo Gue langsung samber: ”Makanya udah tau kayak gini jangan ditinggalin. Gampang, kan?” Him: ”Ini kenapa jadi balik bahas ini? Kan kita udah sepakat kemarin malam kamu nggak keberatan...”

@winasoedarjo And the last word that I said to him sampai pagi ini adalah: ”Udah ya. Kalau memang nggak mau dibahas sekarang, aku hang up aja. We’ll talk later.”

@winasoedarjo Tweet you later juga ya, I'm walking into a meeting now.

Dear boss, tolong jangan nambah headache saya dengan macem-macam hari ini, ya.

The hospital is offering him a one-month cardio fellowship at the New York Presbyterian Hospital in May. Sebulan penuh gue ditinggal, Win. RT @winasoedarjo: New York? For a month? Ada apa?

@winasoedarjo He asked me if he should accept it or not. Gimana coba mau jawabnya?

@winasoedarjo He said I could take 1 or 2 weeks off work to be with him there. Yeah right, kayak kantor gue bakal ngasih cuti aja selama itu.

I know, Wina! *membayangkan sebulan liburan di New York* Tapi cuti susah. RT @winasoedarjo: Ih, kalau gue jadi lo ya, nggak pake mikir gue langsung minta ikut! New York, darla!!

By the end of the night, I said yes. I can't stop him from pursuing his passion, right? Korban dikitlah sebulan nggak ketemu dan beda timezone. RT @winasoedarjo: Tapi lo bolehin dia pergi?

@winasoedarjo But then he had to do the whole "gimana-mau-ditinggalin-kalau-nggak-denger-omongan-aku" shit. Males.

1 April 2011

Sorry I haven't been tweeting all day. Waktu pulang kantor tadi tiba-tiba mual-mual lemes begini. My doctor husband rushed me to the hospital.

Damn food poisoning, nggak enak banget nih badan gue :(

2 April 2011

I want to declare that gue cinta mati sama the Surgeon ini. The way he's taking care of me since last night is amazing.

I mean, nggak mungkin dia segininya kalau dia juga nggak cinta mati ama gue. Weird how I can be so corny about this di tengah-tengah sakit begini, ya.

I smell like a baby because of all the minyak kayu putih he just put all over me. And guess what he's doing now? Making tea in the kitchen.

The stomach still feels tight from all the throwing up, but I'm feeling better, probably because of all the vitamin and liquid Beno has been feeding me.

Our new bedroom ritual: Beno checking my temperature, tapping on my tummy to check if I'm still bloated then he rubbed the minyak kayu putih all over my chest, tummy, and back.

Kampret! RT @winasoedarjo: Tumben Tom and Jerry lagi akur.

4 April 2011

His choice tonight: Emilie. I always love the quiet, intimate ambiance of this place.

More like awww berantem lagi. RT @winasoedarjo: Awww romantic. Tumben banget si Beno.

Dinner berbuntut nggak enak deh pokoknya, Win. RT @winasoedarjo: Why am I not surprised? *geleng-geleng kepala*

@winasoedarjo The Emilie dinner was not just dinner. It's his way of dropping news to me.

@winasoedarjo So we talked about nothing. Ngobrol-ngobrol for an hour, while we were finishing the entrees and the main course.

@winasoedarjo Then came the dessert and more wine. Baru dia ngomong inti sebenarnya yang mau dibicarain malam ini.

@winasoedarjo 1. The New York fellowship thing is going to be 6 weeks instead of a month. He just received the formal invitation today. 6 weeks!

@winasoedarjo 2. He wants me to spend at least half of 6 weeks in New York with him. Gimanapun caranya.

@winasoedarjo Mau tau dessert sebenernya dari dinner ini?

@winasoedarjo Our little fight in the car, yang diawali dengan dia ngomong: ”Ya kamu pikirin dong, Lex, gimana caranya bisa cuti. Jangan cuma bilang susah cuti. Aku maunya kamu ikut.”

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Lo berdua itu sama-sama kepala panas sih, ya. Look at it this way: dia nggak tahan jauh sama lo, makanya dia maksa lo ikut.

@winasoedarjo Iya, ngerti, tapi masa caranya langsung main ultimatum gitu. Kayak bank itu punya gue aja. Padahal gue ngomongnya udah halus lho, tetep aja si Beno ini main ultimatum aja.

@winasoedarjo Gue bilang: ”Hon, aku susah cuti kayaknya, jadi nggak bisa janji juga bisa nemenin kamu di New York selama itu.”

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Terus tanggapannya?

@winasoedarjo Itu, yang langsung ngomel panjang: ”Ya kamu pikirin dong, Lex, gimana caranya bisa cuti” blablabla.

Udah di rumah. RT @winasoedarjo: Ini lo di mana? Masih di mobil?

Prett. RT @winasoedarjo: Udah, sana, peluk-peluk tuh laki lo, ntar kangen lho sebulan lebih nggak ketemu.

5 April 2011

Embeer. Nggak tahu ini namanya baikan atau apa, ya? RT @winasoedarjo: Ibu Alexandra Wicaksono, udah baikan belum hari ini sama Bapak Beno-nya? *gue udah kayak penasihat perkawinan lo gini*

@winasoedarjo We just finished dinner. Awkward and quiet. Cuma gue dan dia duduk berhadapan di meja pantry dapur, makan nggak pake ngobrol.

@winasoedarjo Once we both finished, I said, ”Kamu udah?” He nodded. I got up, took his plate and mine to the sink. That’s when he got up and stood behind me.

@winasoedarjo Si Beno ini paling pinter deh caranya. He suddenly hugged me from behind, for like 5-10 seconds without saying anything.

jitak Wina pake sandal RT @winasoedarjo: Awww, I love your style, Beno Wicaksono!

Sialan lo. RT @winasoedarjo: Hahaha, ampuuun. Terus ngomong apa laki lo? Atau nggak pake ngomong langsung grepe-grepe aja?

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Lho, bukannya lo yang bilang bahwa laki lo itu diem-diem tapi tangannya suka ke mana-mana? Hahaha.

@winasoedarjo Halaaah, bawa-bawa cerita itu lagi. Mau diceritain nggak yang bikin gue lemes apa, Win?

@winasoedarjo He said this, ”Lex, kalau kamu nggak ikut ke New

York, terus nanti yang nungguin aku pulang dari rumah di sana dan aku peluk begini siapa?”

Sekali lagi lo ngomong begini gue jitak beneran ya, Win pas kapan ketemu. RT @winasoedarjo: Awww, I really love your style, Beno Wicaksono!

Prettt! RT @winasoedarjo: LOL bercanda, Lexy. Lo sejak kawin lagi sama si Beno jadi serius banget sama kayak laki lo.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw But seriously, what did you say after he said that?

@winasoedarjo I didn’t say anything. Lost for words gue, Win.

6 April 2011

I’m trying to work some magic here, wish me luck. This is nearly impossible but I have to do it.

I’m in a meeting with the boss and the whole team that will end God knows when and all I can think about is what happened this morning.

Home. The quickest drive home ever. Bubble bath. Plug my iPod to the speaker in the bathroom. Lenny Kravitz wailing. I’m all set.

In case you’re wondering what happened this morning, here it is.

Me: ”Mau sarapan bareng, Ben?” He nodded, got up, and followed me to the kitchen.

Me: ”Kamu mau sarapan kayak biasa?” Him: ”Scrambled egg dengan toast aja, ya.” Me: ”Nggak pake sosis?” Him: ”Nggak usah. Nanti kamu telat, itu kan lama bikinnya.”

I did what he asked me. Then we sat there in the pantry again. Him with his scrambled egg and toasts, me with my cereal.

It was really awkward and I didn't like it. But I still didn't know what to say to him about New York after last night.

So I said this.

Me: "Ben, kamu berangkat ke New York-nya tanggal berapa?"

Him: "6 Mei, Lex. Fellowship-nya mulai Senin-nya."

Me: "Terus balik ke Indonesia-nya kapan?"

Him: "Fellowship-nya abis tanggal 17 Juni, aku mau terbang balik hari itu juga atau besoknya. Kenapa, Lex?"

Me: "Kalau aku ke sananya tanggal 20 Mei, terus balik ke Jakarta lagi tanggl 4 Juni. Boleh, Hon?"

Dia kaget: "Kamu beneran jadi mau ikut ke New York, Lex?"

I nodded and said, "Tapi aku cuma bisa 2 minggu nggak apa-apa, Hon? Kamu kan mintanya 3 minggu, tapi cuti aku tinggal itu."

He smiled. Then he kissed me and said: "Thanks ya, Sayang."

Seeing him smile like he did this morning is priceless.

7 April 2011

The boss is back. He looked happy. Great, the perfect time to woo him to grant my 2 weeks leave.

Yeah, perfect time my ass. Cuti gue nggak dikasih.

I still don't know how to deliver the bad news to Beno.

Alasan bos gue: May is the busiest month in the bank karena lagi mati-matian ngejar target Juni.

Shit.

Oh well, the life of a banker.

The life of a banker which is not always in line with the life of a wife.

20 minutes bubble bath to clear my head before going to bed.

8 April 2011

Didn't have the heart to bring up the conversation about New York with the cardiothoracic surgeon a.k.a my husband this morning at breakfast.

Kampret! RT @winasoedarjo: Ya udah ayo sini ntar lunch ama gue. Biar gue ajarin how to drop bad news to your husband during sex.

Lunch with the number one bitch in Jakarta, @winasoedarjo. Siap-siap bakal diceramahin dan diomelin si dodol ini.

Muka stres menatap berkas calon debitur baru di meja gue ini. This one huge client worth 1,5 trillion yang bikin gue nggak bisa cuti.

To quote the boss yesterday: "Lex, gue nggak mau lo cuti sampai nasabah ini booking, ya. Target Juni kurang 3T lagi nih."

Oh crap. Gue nggak tahan. My migraine is killing me and udah mual-mual dari jam 3 tadi.

Macet on the way home. Fuck you, Jakarta on Friday.

Woke up in the middle of the night to find Beno asleep spooning me. I love how the warmth of his body makes me feel safe.

I love how he rushed to the bedroom when he got home earlier. I love the way he looked at me with this worried look of not just a doctor to a patient...

...but also of a husband to his wife.

I love the way he examined me with his serious, nerdy, doctorish face and the way he kissed me afterward and asked, ”Sayang, masih pusing banget?”

I love the way he stopped calling me with my name and replaced it with ”sayang” the whole night.

I love it when he stroked my tummy gently as he asked,”Mual-mualnya masih, Yang?”

I love how he listened when I said, ”Mual-mualnya nggak apa-apa. Tapi pusingnya ini yang nggak enak banget, Hon.”

I love the warmth of his kiss just before he said, ”Ya udah. Kalau gitu tidur aja, ya. Nanti pusingnya ilang kok kalau kamu udah tidur nyenyak.”

And I love the way he responded, ”Aku di sini, Sayang. Nggak ke mana-mana kok,” when I said, ”Tapi kamu jangan ke mana-mana ya, Hon. Temenin aku sampe ketiduran, ya.”

But I hate how by the end of this month, he can no longer say, ”Aku nggak ke mana-mana,” and actually leaves me for a place that’s 22-hours flight away.

And I hate how I can’t say this to you, Ben: ”Kalau kamu ke New York, nanti yang peluk-peluk aku kalau aku lagi sakit begini siapa, Hon?”

9 April 2011

I'm in the hospital, by the way. Beno took me here because I haven't been able to hold down my food all morning. So now I'm on IV.

We've been here since 11 AM. I hate hospitals!

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Darl, you're okay, kan? Nggak parah?

@winasoedarjo I'm fine kok, Win, cuma mual-mual terus dari tadi. Udah di-blood test segala macem and they can't find anything wrong. Jadi akhirnya dia maksa supaya gue stay di rumah sakit aja dulu.

@winasoedarjo Gue juga udah ngomong sama dia tentang cuti gue yang ditolak itu.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Terus reaksinya gimana?

@winasoedarjo He kept on hugging me and listened and didn't say a word.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Dia diem aja? Nggak ngomong apa-apa?

@winasoedarjo Diem, Win. Akhirnya gue bilang, "Maafin aku ya, Hon, aku nggak tau harus gimana lagi. Aku nggak berani cerita ke kamu."

@winasoedarjo Masih diem juga. Gue tanya, "Kamu marah ya, Hon?" Dia cuma jawab, "Udah ya, Sayang. Nggak usah dibahas dulu yang itu. Yang penting kamu sembuh dulu, ya."

@winasoedarjo So here we are on the hospital bed, watching some movie on HBO. Dia meluk gue dari tadi tapi nggak ngomong apa-apa.

I love you for who you are, Ben, including your deep quietness. But for once, could you please just tell me what's on your mind?

He hasn't said a word dari tadi kecuali nyuruh gue makan dan minum obat. I hate this hospital and I hate this.

We're in the best room in this hospital and I'm hating this.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Lo jangan terlalu kepikiran gitu, Lex, ntar lo malah nggak sembuh-sembuh. Give him time, mungkin dia juga lagi mikir.

@winasoedarjo Well, for some reasons, Beno yang sekarang is easier for me to be with daripada yang dulu. But for some others, Beno yang lama is easier for me to understand.

@winasoedarjo In our first marriage, dia kalau nggak suka sesuatu akan langsung ngomong dan marah-marah. We fought constantly but at least I knew how he felt.

@winasoedarjo Now, mungkin karena kami nggak pengen berantem parah mulu kayak dulu, he always does this kalau nggak suka sesuatu. Quiet and reserved, which always left me wondering.

10 April 2011

Udah mendingan kok, Win. RT @winasoedarjo: I tried calling you but your phone is off, ya? How are you feeling, darl? Better?

No, we did talk. Gue DM aja, ya. "@winasoedarjo: Si Beno gimana? Masih diem-diem aja?"

D winasoedarjo: Gue bilang begini, Win: "Hon, aku nggak enak kamu diem aja dari tadi. Kalau ada yang mau diomongin tentang aku, tentang New York, diomongin aja, Hon. Please? Aku jadi serem kamu diem aja."

D winasoedarjo: Dia jawab: ”Aku harus ngomong apa, Lex? Kamu udah bilang nggak bisa ikut ke New York karena nggak bisa cuti. Jadi aku mau ngomong apa lagi? Kan aku nggak bisa maksa...”

D winasoedarjo: When he said this, suaranya pelan banget dan for once mukanya nggak lempeng, tapi menatap gue dengan tatapan kayak nggak tau mau ngapain lagi.

D winasoedarjo: Him: ”Kamu tau kenapa aku nggak bisa pisah sama kamu selama itu? Ini bukan masalah aku egois sebagai suami harus diikuti istrinya ke mana-mana. Bukan itu, Lex...”

D winasoedarjo: Nggak sampai hati pas dia ngomong ini: ”...I constantly worry about you, Lex. Ini kamu kecapekan di kantor sama banyak pikiran aja udah langsung sakit begini...”

D winasoedarjo: And the last words that he said yang bikin gue nggak tega adalah... ”Dan, Sayang, kalau nggak ada kamu, yang aku gulingin kalau tidur itu siapa?”

D winasoedarjo: So I said nothing and just kissed him.

D winasoedarjo: He kissed me back and said, ”Jadi udah ya, Sayang, kamu istirahat aja biar cepet sembuh. Nanti we’ll think of something to make those 6 weeks easier.”

It’s 1 AM and I can’t go back to sleep. Beno is watching something on HBO.

You might think our stressing out over being away from each other for only 6 weeks is berlebihan.

But you see, even in the previous marriage, even in the last year of the doomed marriage when we’re not speaking to each other...

...we never lived separately. Paling lama juga 3 hari to a week kalau gue ada dinas ke luar kota.

Because we're both busy, way too busy that the only way for us to still be with each other as much as we can is to develop a mutual dependance.

I depend on him on some things and he depends on me on some things.

Karena kalau 2 orang menikah kayak gue dan dia: we both have our own money, we have our own lives, dan dengan cinta aja nggak cukup untuk make it through.

Harus ada saling butuh. That's what we didn't hold strong in our first marriage.

Jadi when things get tough, karena masing-masing independen dan bisa berdiri sendiri, gampang banget buat bilang cerai dan pisah.

We might love each other back then, but I didn't feel like we needed each other.

Ehm... nggak pantes banget ya kayak gue gini yang udah pernah gagal ceramah tentang pernikahan gini.

Alhamdulillah boleh pulang.

Masih jleb banget rasanya yang dibilang Beno tadi sebelum dia bilang bahwa gue udah boleh pulang.

He sat on the bed, looked into my eyes, and said...

"Kamu tau, Sayang, sakit yang di sini (stroking my tummy), dan yang di sini (touching my forehead), itu semuanya dari sini (touching my chest)...

...kalau punya pikiran, jangan sampe dimasukin ke hati ya, Sayang. Karena kebawanya jadi sakit gini karena kamu rasa-rasain terus."

You know what thought hit my head just now as I'm watching him pack my stuff into the traveling bag before we leave the hospital?

I don’t know what I am going to do without the nearness of you, Ben.

11 April 2011

The busiest surgeon in Jakarta udah pulang lho jam segini. Makin ganteng deh dia kalau pulangnya kayak suami berpekerjaan normal ;)

Me: ”Cepet banget pulangnya, Hon. Sakit?” Him: ”Nggak. Aku cuma nggak mau lagi terima jadwal surgery di atas jam 4 sore sampe aku berangkat.”

Me: (Teasing him) ”Kok cuma sampe kamu berangkat doang? Sampe selamanya dong, Hon.”

Him: (Muka lempeng, obviously teasing me back) ”Ntar buat bayar sepatu dan tas baru kamu yang nggak kehitung itu tiap bulan dari mana?”

Me: (Laughed and kissed him) ”Hahaha, nggak segitunya, kali.”

12 April 2011

On the way to the office. Let’s knock out some deals today.

Hari ini jadwal agak-agak padat, Darl, minggu depan deh. RT @winasoedarjo: Lunch bareng yuk!

@winasoedarjo Anyway, last night, after we made love, I told Beno that sebenarnya I don’t want him to go. Didn’t plan to say this, actually.

Diem. Beno banget deh pokoknya. RT @winasoedarjo: Terus reaksinya gimana?

@winasoedarjo Never planned to actually say it to him maksudnya. Nggak tega. I mean, the fellowship is something he really wants and it's very important to him.

I just said jokingly to the boss: "Pak, kalau saya bisa booking nasabah gede yang Bapak mau itu bulan ini, saya boleh dong minta cuti ke New York itu."

The boss: "Kalau bisa bawa nasabah itu, lo minta apa aja gue kasih, Lex." Me: "Serius lho, Pak."

I don't care if he was joking, but I'm gonna take his word for it.

Ma to the cet. Jakarta is shit on weekdays, ya.

The Surgeon is playing his favorite CD in the car, Herbie Hancock's *The Imagine Project*.

Did I tell you that he proposed to me in the car? Not very romantic, ya.

In the first marriage, he proposed in the car, while we're stuck in traffic like this, and no ring.

Cuma tiba-tiba nyium dan ngomong: "Lex, marry me?"

Waktu gue bengong, he said straightforwardly: "Sayang, maaf ya belum sempet beliin kamu cincin. Tapi aku nggak tahan lagi ingin melamar kamu."

Ngajak nikah yang kedua, also in the car, also in the middle of traffic jam like this, although this time he's prepared with a ring.

But will tell you that story later, ya. Beno udah ngomel barusan: "Suaminya udah di sebelah masih aja ngurusin BB." Me: "Hehehe, iya iya."

Home. And I'm definitely going to miss pemandangan barusan yang biasanya bikin gue menghela napas sebel ini.

Beno walking into the bedroom, took off his shirt and pants, dan dengan cueknya dilempar ke karpet, then went straight into the bathroom.

Nggak bisa gitu ya tangannya langsung naruh ke hamper. I am left picking up his mess everywhere.

Tapi 6 minggu nggak mungut-mungut bajunya yang berserakan begini bakal bikin kangen juga kali, ya.

13 April 2011

New rule from the Surgeon starting today: nggak boleh pulang kantor lebih dari jam 8 malam. He said, ”Itu curfew baru kamu ya, Lex.”

Yeah, curfew. I’m twelve. Sekalian disuruh pakai seragam SD aja deh gue pakai jam malam begini.

Tried to argue back by saying that it’s not within my control, or that I need to work on that client to be able to get the leave for New York.

He just said, ”Ya udah, bawa kerjaannya ke rumah dan kerjain di sini. Bisa, kan?”

Daripada berantem nggak berkesudahan, I gave up and said: ”Fine.”

The doctor just called me dengan suara berat: ”Lex, mulai flu batuk-batuk nih. Kamu pulang cepet dong. Aku mau pulang cepet juga. Mau, ya?”

Susah deh kita kalau udah si dokter ini yang sakit. Manjanya udah kayak sakitnya paling berat sedunia.

Si gembul ini suka lebai kalau sakit. Hehehe, pasti langsung mutung kalau tau gue panggil gembul.

Macet total from the client's factory in Karawaci. This is going to be a long drive. Might as well tweet. What story do you want me to tell?

I've told you about the way we frequenly met at Nasi Goreng Sabang after work, right? Awalnya kebetulan lalu jadinya janjian.

Ada 2 bulanan, kali ya we were doing this. At least 3 nights a week. So we would meet up, eat, and talk for like an hour then pulang sendiri-sendiri.

But we were only doing that on weekdays, never on weekends. In this period, we didn't call or text or BBM other than untuk janjian ke nasgor.

I wasn't dating anyone back then, and from laporannya si @winasoedarjo yang dapat laporan dari lakinya, neither was Beno.

Gue juga sebenarnya belum tahu, di antara gue dan Beno waktu itu mau dibawa ke mana.

Yang gue tahu, I was always looking forward to meeting him 3 nights a week, and I think he was too.

Anyway, one Saturday night, it was around 6ish, I was driving home from Kemang on my own when he called me.

Me: ”Ya, Ben?” Him: ”Eh, Lex. Lagi ngapain?” I know, si Beno itu emang basi banget cara pendekatannya, ”lagi ngapain”.

Me: ”Lagi nyetir nih. Dari Kemang. Kenapa, Ben?” Him: ”Oh, ada acara ya?” Me: ”Nggak, tadi lagi pengen liat-liat Moie aja.” Him: ”Udah makan?”

Me: ”Belum.” Him: ”Temenin aku makan yuk. Aku on the way balik dari rumah sakit dan laper banget.” Me: ”Kok Sabtu gini ke rumah sakit?” Him: ”Tadi ada emergency. Mau, Lex?”

Me: ”Ya udah. Tapi aku nggak mau di nasgor Sabang, ya. Bosen lama-lama.” He laughed: ”Iya, maunya di mana?” Me: ”Terserah. Yang laper banget deh lagi pengen apa.”

His choice was Gyukaku in Pacific Place. I said yes. So we met up and ate there.

Guess who we accidently met there while we were dining?

Kayaknya ketemu Denny or ex-nya si Beno pun masih lebih mending daripada ketemu one of the tante(s). Yes that’s right, that’s who we ran into.

We were already finished with dinner and were enjoying the ogura as dessert when the tante came over to our table and screamed enthusiastically.

The tante: ”Eeeh ada Beno dan Alexandra di sini. Lagi makan juga, ya?” Gue dalam hati udah pengen ngomong: nggak, lagi push-up. MENURUT LO?

Beno and I could only smile awkwardly as the tante went on: ”Tumben ini jalan bareng lagi. Udah pacaran lagi, ya?”

Mau mampus nggak lo denger begitu? Gue dan Beno liat-liatan bingung mau jawab gimana. So it was him who immediately responded sebelum makin salting.

He said: ”Tante Sari, bercerai itu nggak berarti memutus tali silaturrahmi, kan?” He said that dengan muka serius yang bikin gue nahan ketawa.

The tante said some more things, kita ketawa-tawa aja, then she gave up and returned to her table dengan teman-teman arisannya. Reseh beneran deh.

Beno looked at me and said, ”Maaf ya, kamu tahu sendiri, kan Tante

Sari emang begitu." Gue senyum aja, "Udah, nggak apa-apa. Ngerti kok."

But he noticed that I was uncomfortable with the tante who kept glancing at our table. He asked, "Mau udahan aja di sininya?" I nodded and answered, "Nggak apa-apa ya, Ben."

I insisted we go Dutch while he insisted on paying for dinner: "Kan ceritanya kamu nemenin aku makan?" So I let him pay, saying: "Next time giliran aku, ya."

As we walked from Gyukaku across the lobby of Pacific Place and down to the parking lot, we ran into another person.

This time it was our friend, whom of course, looked at us dengan pandangan bertanya-tanya juga. Beno dan gue cuma basa-basi sebentar dan kami langsung pamit buru-buru.

Then he walked me to my car. Gue dan dia ngobrol ringan aja.

Then as I got in the car and he closed my door, he said this.

Him: "Alexandra, aku tau kalau aku ngajak kamu jalan bareng lagi dan orang-orang liat, akan banyak orang yang berisik nanya-nanya ada apa sebenernya di antara kita sekarang...

...aku sendiri nggak peduli orang-orang mau nanya atau mau bilang apa, Lex...

...yang aku peduli cuma satu. Aku mau kita nyoba jadi kita lagi, menurut kamu gimana?"

Gue bengong. Buset ini orang nggak ada basa-basinya sama sekali atau merayu-rayu dikit kek.

So I was there—salting—gripping the steering wheel, he was standing next to my car door, folding his arms.

There was this awkward silence between us, until he said (dengan muka lempeng ya, catet): ”Ya pacaran lagi gitu dulu deh, Lex.”

I couldn’t help pengen ketawa, dia langsung bete ngeliat muka gue yang udah setengah senyum nahan ketawa. Him: ”Kok kamu senyum-senyum aneh gitu sih?”

Gue pengen ketawa bukan karena I didn’t want to. Ya udah gue jujur aja. I did still have feelings for him back then, cuma lucu aja cara minta baliknya.

Gue sebenarnya kaget dia secepat itu ngomong minta pacaran lagi. But honestly, I’m glad he did.

Because I don’t know why, I just can’t imagine being with anybody else but him.

But I decided to just tease him a little then: ”Emang masih pantes, ya seumuran kita yang mantan suami-istri ini pacar-pacaran lagi?”

He answered, straightforwardly, which is so him, no basa-basi at all and with a flat tone yang sama sekali nggak ada romantis-romantisnya.

Him: ”Terserah namanya apa. Yang penting aku nggak ngeliat perempuan lain lagi dan aku nggak mau kamu sama siapa-siapa lagi kecuali aku. Boleh, ya?”

Since I knew what I was gonna say anyway, sekalian aja gue kerjain dikit sebelum gue jawab beneran.

Me: ”Beno, ngomongnya kok kayak ngajak jadi caleg partai sih? Nggak bisa romantis dikit, ya?”

You know how he responded? He said, ”Ya udah,” then leaned forward and kissed me.

Then he looked at me and said: ”Udah?”

I smiled and said yes. So that's the story how we went back dating (before we decided to marry later). Biasa banget, nggak sweet, di parkiran pula.

Flu ama batuk doang hebohnya sedunia. RT @winasoedarjo: Sakit apa sih laki lo?

Called Mbok to prepare chicken soup for the doctor. That's his favorite flu remedy.

Sementara gue masih macet di Sudirman ini. Seriously, I wanna kick Foke's ass and throw him off a cliff.

Finally home. Beno ketiduran in bed dengan hidung merah dan muka pucet. Okay, time to do my role as a wife and take care of him.

Fed him, gave him meds, and tucked him in. Now he won't sleep unless I got in bed also and be his guling.

The sick boy udah nyenyak banget, paha gue udah pegel dikekepin, dan gue belum ngantuk. Plus gue bakal ketularan banget deh besok. Need vitamin!

14 April 2011

My conversation with the big boss just now. Boss: "Lex, lo beneran pengen cuti bulan Mei itu?" Me: "Bener, Pak. Kan ikut suami saya ke New York."

Him: "Ya udah, book this client then you can go." Me: "Serius ya, Pak." Him: "My word is my bond." Dalam hati teriak-teriak dan pengen masang petasan.

Okay, jangan superexcited dulu. This means I have to work my ass off for the next 3 weeks. Hell. Hell. HELL.

The boss: ”Lex, now that you’ve mentioned it. Ntar lo ikutan dinner dengan direksi dan Pak Hendra, ya. 7 at Gyukaku.” Me: ”Oh. Baik, Pak.”

Pak Hendra is the owner of the company yang I have to book itu.

Time to use the power of woo.

First thing first: wooing yang lagi sakit ini. He said earlier he had canceled all his surgeries for the day dan mau pulang jam 6 sore.

Pak Hendra bawa anaknya yang jadi CEO perusahaannya dan anaknya sumpah ganteng banget. #eh

Norak! RT @winasoedarjo: Foto, Nyet! Foto!

33, Wharton graduate, ganteng, charming, belum nikah, lagi. Namanya Adrian Hendraputra. Monggo di-Google :P

Finally home. My baby a.k.a the brilliant surgeon udah ketiduran di sofa depan TV. Kasian banget.

I asked Mbok: ”Beno udah makan?” The Mbok: ”Udah, Non. Tapi dikit banget.” Me: ”Ya udah panasin lagi dan siapin lagi, ya. Susah kayak anak kecil ya, Mbok.”

This is the main difference of being married from being single, I tell ya.

When you’re single, you only have yourself to answer to. Pulang kerja capek malem-malem begini mau tidur nggak ganti baju juga who cares.

When you’re somebody’s wife, pulang kantor secapek apa pun, you still have to play your role as a wife.

15 April 2011

It's past midnight. Beno is sleeping like a baby next to me while I'm still awake with the laptop and the papers from work.

As soon as I got home tadi, I woke him up gently, made him really eat his dinner, and felt myself smiling watching him munched 2 Beard Papas.

Gave him his meds, kissed him good night, then dipeluk-peluk dikit sampe tidur. Kayak punya bayi ya, tapi ini bayinya gede, hehehe.

Dia tidur, gue harus lembur bentar menyelesaikan kerjaan ini. You know, the project yang harus gue cicil. The story of a working housewife.

Ben... besok sembuh, ya.

Anaknya Pak Hendra yang tadi malam ngajak gue lunch untuk ngobrolin masalah kreditnya. I'm canceling you ya, @winasoedarjo.

Bisnis nih, Nyet. RT @winasoedarjo: Oooh jadi gitu, ada yang ganteng gue dibuang! Okeh!

I can't decide whether this guy is charming or flirtuous.

This guy being Bapak Adrian Hendraputra ini.

The BBM I received just now.

Adrian: "Bu Alexandra, thank you for the wonderful lunch." Me: "The pleasure is mine, Pak." Him: "Boleh kan ya kapan-kapan saya ajak lagi untuk ngobrol?"

Me: "Kalau ada yang bisa saya bantu lagi, please do not hesitate to call me ya, Pak. Terima kasih sekali lagi sudah memilih bank kami."

You know, Win, you're my best friend and all, tapi kadang-kadang interogasi lo sangat nggak penting @winasoedarjo.

Here's excerpts from our BBM conversation just now.

Her: ”Ditaksir orang ganteng kaya mampus gitu apa rasanya, Lex?” Me: ”Anjrit, apaan sih lo? Dia nasabah gue kalee. Suka berlebihan deh.”

Her: ”Ngapain coba dia ngajak lo lunch berdua gitu? Sok polos deh kamyu, Bu Alexandra.” Me: ”Sama nasabah itu biasa, kampret.”

Her: ”Tapi nggak biasa, kan ya nasabah lo muda, cakep, single gitu. Biasanya kan bapak-bapak atau ibu-ibu.” Me: ”Dibahas aja dibahas! Cuma ngobrolin bisnis, Nyeeet!”

Her: Lo bilang nggak ke dia kalau lo udah kawin?” Me: ”Ngapain?” Her: ”Biar dia tau, dodol.”

Me: ”Gelo. Dia nggak nanya, kali. Ngapain gue ujug-ujug ngomong: ’Pak, by the way, saya udah kawin lho.’ Nggak nyambung, Nyet.” Her: ”Yayaya, liat aja ntar.”

Me: ”Norak lo.” Her: ”But he saw your wedding ring, kan? Nggak lo copot, kan?” Me: ”Buset, penuduhan! Seumur-umur nggak pernah gue copot ini, ya!”

Her: ”LOL emosi.” Me: ”Reseh lo.” Her: ”Hehehe. Gue cuma bercanda, dodol. Tapi sekalian ngingetin juga. Jangan sampe dianya keterusan.” Me: ”Iyaaaaaaaa.”

Oh shit, mulai beler parah nih idung gue. Thanks to the Surgeon dan virusnya.

Maceeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeet! Stuck di Semanggi udah setengah jam gini nggak lucu!

Ehm, tebak BBM siapa yang baru masuk.

Adrian: ”Bu Alexandra, sorry to bother you on a Friday night like this. Busy?” Me: ”Nggak apa-apa, Pak. Ada yang bisa saya bantu?”

Him: ”Masih di kantor, Bu? There’s something I need to ask you.” Me: ”I just left the office, Pak, but silakan kalau ada yang mau ditanyakan.”

Him: ”Oh maaf, is it okay that I BBM you after office hours like this?” Me: Tidak apa-apa, Pak. How can I help?”

Him: ”I was thinking, next week I’ll be flying to the project site in Kalimantan for a couple of days sekalian ngecek progress-nya...

...kalau Ibu jadi mau lihat project-nya, sekalian saja terbang dengan saya. Jadi saya bisa jelaskan lengkap selama di sana. Bagaimana, Bu?”

I thought, gue emang perlu melihat project-nya, OTS or on-the-spot visit, otherwise gimana mau cepet dan thorough nganalisis loan feasibility-nya.

So I replied: ”Baik, Pak Adrian. But can I check with my office first and get back to you on Monday morning?”

Him: ”Absolutely, Bu. Looking forward to your confirmation, ya. Have a great weekend.” Me: ”You too, Pak.”

Wina, semua nasabah gue juga gitu. Lebai lo! RT @winasoedarjo: Is it okay if I BBM you after office hours like this? HARUSNYA DIJAWAB NGGAK, DODOL!

16 April 2011

You snored so loud tonight because of your flu, Ben, that I woke up in the middle of the night all the time, but I love you still.

And my runny nose won’t stop running. Hidungnya lari-lari gitu deh. *nggak lucu, Alexandra* *efek beler gara-gara obat flu*

Breakfast: bubur ayam buatan Mbok for me + scrambled egg for my husband. No more sausage for you, Surgeon Boy.

The apartment is far from sexy thir morning. Germs everywhere, tissues everywhere. I'm surprised si Mbok belum ketularan.

Me: "Can we please mengungsi ke rumah Kebagusan while Mbok is cleaning this apartement? I feel like it's germ fest here."

Him: (ketawa) "But it's our germ anyway, Lex." Me: "Iya tapi aku udah geli ngeliat tisu di mana-mana. I need a larger space to breathe."

Him: "Ya udah. Abis sarapan dan mandi kita ke sana, ya."

This apartment, though not too big, buys us convenience. The house buys us a lot of space, but the traffic jam is just terrible. For now, we choose convenience.

When we got divorced 3 years ago, we sold the apartment we lived in and we each moved to a new one.

When we remarried 5 months ago, I moved into his because he asked me to and it's bigger, and I rented mine out.

Why didn't I just sell mine? Perempuan sekarang itu harus punya aset sendiri, biar kalau—amit-amit—lo pisah ama laki lo, lo nggak homeless and moneyless.

Kalaupun laki lo sanggup membiayai hidup lo, menurut gue penting buat perempuan bekerja.

1. Supaya punya tabungan sendiri. 2. Supaya keluarga laki lo nggak nganggap lo tangannya di bawah mulu. 3. Supaya punya pergaulan di luar.

I don't know about you, tapi gue sih nggak tahan ya seharian di rumah dan yang diliat laki gue lagi, laki gue lagi—tanpa ada kesibukan di luar.

Oh here's the story on rumah Kebagusan. Waktu mau nikah lagi, we decided to pursue the boss to sell the house back to us. There's too many memories here.

Let's face it, jualnya dulu juga pake emosi.

Harganya kan naik banget tuh. Tapi kita tetep pengen. I offered to chip in, but this guy ya, si Beno ini, egonya tinggi banget dan nggak mau gue nyumbang.

Padahal dulu pas pertama beli juga duitnya bareng, ya. He said: "From now on, semua sandang, pangan, papan, itu semuanya tanggunganku, ya."

Padahal maksud gue juga supaya gue punya share on our assets. Biar punya suara kalau "RUPS antara suami-istri" hehehe.

Kebayang dulu kalau pas cerai gue nggak kerja, nggak punya duit, dan nggak punya aset. Mampus, kali.

Or kayak beberapa perempuan sekarang ini. Ditahan-tahanin tetap nikah ama lakinya walau sebenernya nggak tahan lagi daripada cerai dan nggak punya apa-apa.

Bukannya gue mau bilang bahwa perempuan kerja dan punya aset biar gampang cerai, ya. Sama sekali bukan.

Tapi supaya kalau ngambil keputusan itu dengan kepala jernih. Mau tetep nikah emang karena cinta, bukan karena kalau cerai takut nggak punya apa-apa.

Had a quick lunch at Pan d'Or and now off to Kebagusan.

Love this house. Wooden floor, floor to ceiling windows, little backyard, quiet neighborhood. Sayang agak jauh dan macet.

Maybe someday when we have kids, we would move here so they can play all around these wide spaces. The apartment is too small to raise kids.

But then again, when we have kids, maybe it's wiser to live downtown like we do now supaya waktu nggak abis di jalan dan bisa segera ketemu anak-anak.

Oh the choices you have to bear when you live in a Foke City like this.

Tapi masih mending gue dan Beno punya choices. Some people are not even given the luxury of choices.

Kami mau tidur siang dulu, ya. Tweet you later. Have a great weekend.

Yay, the delivery is here! Delivery means nyuruh si Ahmed beliin wings-nya 4 Fingers di Epicentrum dan ngantar ke sini.

On the couch with our dinner in front of the TV. Yeah, didn't even bother to use pantry.

This couch brings that one memory of me and him being here when we were about to sell this house and dia menyelipkan poni gue.

Our first physical touch after the divorce. Well, selain karena dia memang harus nyentuh gue karena meriksa gue kalau sakit.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Gue dulu suka *gedeg* kalau lo sakit harus nelepon si Beno itu. Si Beno murahan banget, mau aja dateng gitu meriksa. I wanted to scream: "You both get a room already!"

@winasoedarjo Heh! Gue beneran ya sakitnya, nggak dibuat-buat!

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Sakit kangen maksudnya?

@winasoedarjo Gue ngakak baca mention lo yang barusan, sampai si Beno bingung.

Sialan! RT @winasoedarjo: Ngakak karena kenyataan, ya? Hahaha!

Anak ini minta dijejelin pake tisu bekas ingusnya si Beno kayaknya. RT @winasoedarjo: Sakit kangen terus manggil dokternya biar bisa main dokter-dokteran gitu *wink*

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw EWWW!! LO JOROK BANGET SIH MAENANNYA!

@winasoedarjo Lo mau tau yang lebih jorok? This morning we did it since he insisted eventhough he's sick. In the middle of it, he coughed dan nyembur ludah ke muka gue. Gue teriak ewww, dia malah ketawa.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Yaaa, hitung-hitung semprotan air asin biar kulit muka lo makin mulus.

@winasoedarjo Woi!!

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw *ngakak guling-guling*

@winasoedarjo Btw, barusan si Beno lirik-lirik gue lagi. Langsung gue ultimatum: "Pakai masker baru boleh!"

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Roleplay-nya pakai masker sekarang? Ooooo...

@winasoedarjo WOI!! *ikutan ngakak guling-guling*

Bapak Beno Wicaksono, beneran deh, ya. Cinta apa nggak sih sebenarnya? Masa bininya sendiri udah kena semburan batuknya dua kali? Catet ya, dua kali!

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Wahahahahaha!

17 April 2011

Untuk dosa dia ke gue tadi malam, Bapak Beno is going to have to beg for my forgiveness by at least a handbag.

Thank you for the Bottega ya, Pak Beno. Panjenengan dimaafkeun :)

Hahaha, iyalah serius! RT @winasoedarjo: BUSEEET! Lo serius ”menghukum” si Beno dengan minta dibeliin handbag? Bitch.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Hari ini gue kasian sama si Beno. He is so whipped.

Today’s lunch: the hot bowl of ramen at Sushi Tei Senci. Butuh yang anget-anget biar flunya cepat ilang.

This is funny. Beno just asked me: ”Kenapa sih dari tadi senyum-senyum mulu sama BB? Lagi BBM-an ama Wina, ya?”

Gue jelaskan ke dia tentang Twitter. Yang dia tanggapi dengan: ”Apaan sih itu? Nggak penting.”

18 April 2011

Maceeeeeeet!

Leaving for work at 6.15 and having to endure this effing traffic is a bitch.

Berdasarkan instruksi bos, gue jadi dong terbang ke Kalimantan dengan Adrian, Kamis besok. Now, gimana minta izin sama laki gue, ya?

Asistennya Adrian barusan nganter berkas seabreg-abreg buat loan feasibility-nya.

And Bapak Beno tiba-tiba BBM ngabsen. Hidup gue oh hidup gue. Di kantor diabsen, di rumah diabsen.

Kampreet! RT @winasoedarjo: Ya udah, terima nasib aja nikah sama guru BP ;)))

Gue nggak bisa masak sama sekali :) RT @PalupiAngga: Suka masakin buat Beno nggak? Masak rawon atau something selain telur goreng?

This is how we eat: Mbok cooks, kiriman masakan dari mertua, delivery, eat out.

Mbok was the helper at my parents' house yang gue minta sama Nyokap untuk ikut gue after the doctor and I got married.

Home. Quick shower. Work. Bahkan nggak punya waktu untuk bubble bath kayak biasanya.

The Surgeon is home. Saatnya nemenin dia makan dan merayu minta izin ke Kalimantan. Wish me luck.

Udah dong, dikasih lagi. RT @winasoedarjo: Udah minta izin lo sama guru BP?

Kampret! DIA CUMA NASABAH GUE!!! RT @winasoedarjo: Andai si Beno tau ya kalau si Adrian itu gebetan lo ;))))

Nyebelin emang lo, ya. Reseh! Lo bercanda beginian kalau si Beno denger dia bisa mikir beneran, mati gue. RT @winasoedarjo: Hahaha, ngamuk. Gue bercanda, Lexy cantik :)

Otak lo ya, Win! Btw, dia tau aja gitu dong si Adrian Hendraputra itu siapa. Kaget gue tadi. RT @winasoedarjo: Iya iya! Eh cerita dong tadi minta izin sama guru BP-nya gimana. Pake dipukul pantat dulu nggak? *wink*

Waktu gue menyebutkan nama perusahaan yang mau gue kunjungin di Kalimantan, dia bilang: "Punya siapa? Kok kayak pernah dengar?" RT @winasoedarjo: Lho, kok bisa? Dia kenal gitu? Cerita dong!

@winasoedarjo Gue jawab: ”William Hendraputra.” Him: ”Itu nama bapaknya, kan? Bukannya ada anaknya ya yang sekarang jalanin?”

@winasoedarjo Gue kaget. Buset, si Beno kok tau begini sih? He doesn’t read business magazine, kan?

@winasoedarjo Terus dia bilang gini: ”Anaknya itu dulu anak PL juga kayak aku. Juniorku berapa tahun gitulah. Suka koleksi mobil, ada di Autobild bulan lalu. Siapa namanya?”

@winasoedarjo Gue jawab namanya Adrian. Dia nanya udah ketemu sama si Adrian itu, gue jawab iya.

@winasoedarjo Terus gue langsung aja nembak minta izin: ”Itu yang mau aku omongin, Hon. You see, aku disuruh bosku untuk ke Kalimantan liat project-nya.”

@winasoedarjo Pas gue bilang berangkatnya Kamis ini, langsung dong dia nyamber: ”Tiba-tiba banget. Sama siapa?”

Cuma gue dan si Adrian. Bos gue nggak ikut. Gue mau bawa asisten gue sih. RT @winasoedarjo: Emang lo berangkatnya sama siapa?

Lo denger dulu nih ceritanya, proses minta izinnya panjang dan berbelit-belit deh udah kayak mau mohon kredit 100 milyar. RT @winasoedarjo: Terus dikasih? Tumben si Beno gampang.

@winasoedarjo Me: ”Aku sama nasabahnya.” Him: ”Bos kamu nggak ikut? Asisten kamu?” Me: ”Bos nggak ikut...”

@winasoedarjo Dia nanya: ”Terus ketemu nasabahnya di sana? Bapaknya apa anaknya?”

@winasoedarjo Gue jawab: ”Bapaknya kan udah tua banget, Hon, jadi anaknya doang kayaknya.” Him: ”Si Adrian itu?” Me: ”Iya.” Him: ”Kalau aku bilang nggak boleh gimana?”

Reseh, lo temen gue atau groupies-nya si Beno sih?! RT @winasoedarjo: Setuju, Beno, nggak usah dikasih! Ntar bini lo digatelin sama si Adrian sok kecakepan itu!

Ini urusan kantor, dodol. Kalo gue nggak booking nasabah ini, gimana gue mau cuti dan pacaran sama laki gue di New York? *nangis* RT @winasoedarjo: Gue tau banget deh, Nyet, model-modelnya si Adrian itu gimana. Jadi ngapain lo ke Kalimantan berdua sama dia.

Gue tanya dengan lembut kenapa nggak boleh. RT @winasoedarjo: *Pukpuk*, terus lo ngomong apa pas dia bilang nggak boleh? Kok bisa jadi boleh?

@winasoedarjo Dia bilang: "Aku nggak pengen aja kamu pergi-pergi ke luar kota sampe aku ke New York. Di Jakarta dulu aja deh ya, nggak usah ke mana-mana."

@winasoedarjo Terus dia bilang gini: "Nggak bisa asisten kamu aja yang pergi ya gantiin kamu?" Gue jawab: "Nggak bisa dong, Hon. Kan dia nggak ngerti apa yang harus dicek dan segala macem."

@winasoedarjo Pertanyaan berikutnya: "Berapa lama?" Me: "Satu malam aja kok, Hon. Aku take off Kamis pagi. Jumat sore juga udah balik Jakarta. Ya, Hon, ya?"

@winasoedarjo Terus dia diem, lama. Gue cuma bisa nunggu harap-harap cemas.

@winasoedarjo Lanjut dong pertanyaan berikutnya: "Si Adrian itu juga ikut ke Kalimantan-nya?" Me: "Iya, kan dia yang mau nunjukin project-nya yang mau aku financing itu."

@winasoedarjo Him: "Aku kok nggak nyaman ngebolehin kamu ya, Lex." Me: "Honey, kenapa? Kayak aku nggak pernah ninggalin kamu OTS aja. Lebih lama juga pernah."

@winasoedarjo Then he looked at me dengan tatapan tajam dan mukanya yang nyeremin itu kalau lagi serius.

@winasoedarjo Him: ”1. Aku mau pergi lama, kalau bisa kamu nggak usah pergi-pergi dulu ninggalin aku. 2. Aku nggak nyaman kamu pergi jauh-jauh sama nasabah laki-laki yang masih muda itu.”

Ini gue mau berapa juta kali teriak ya sama lo kalau DIA ITU CUMA NASABAH GUE! RT @winasoedarjo: Tuh, udah bener tuh radarnya si Beno jalan.

@winasoedarjo Gue bilang sama dia: ”Ya ampun, Hon, yang pertama aku ngerti. Tapi yang keduanya apa maksudnya? Kan dia nasabah doang. Mau muda, mau tua, nggak ada apa-apanya sama aku ini.”

@winasoedarjo Him: ”Aku nggak nyaman aja. Boleh kan sebagai suami aku nggak nyaman kalau istriku pergi sama laki-laki lain walau itu urusan pekerjaan?”

@winasoedarjo Me: ”Hon... Beno, biasanya aku juga pergi sama laki-laki lain, kan? Bosku juga laki-laki, asistenku juga laki-laki, tapi kamunya nggak begini.”

@winasoedarjo Lo mau tau dia ngomong apa? ”Bos dan asisten kamu bukan playboy milyuner yang koleksi mobil mahal, kan?” Hhh, pusing gue, Win, dengernya.

@winasoedarjo Gue lembut-lembutin dong dia (padahal gondok karena cemburuan nggak penting gitu): ”Hon, apaan sih ngomongnya harus gitu? Nggak percaya sama istri sendiri?”

@winasoedarjo Dan dengan muka lempengnya dia ngomong begini: ”Ini bukan masalah percaya apa nggak, ini masalah suka apa nggak, dan aku nggak suka kamu pergi.”

@winasoedarjo My God! The ego of this guy! Pengen dijambak-jambak deh. Atau gue pake senjata air mata sekalian!

@winasoedarjo Karena males berantem, gue elus-elus dong lengannya sambil ngomong selembut mungkin: ”Hon, aku ngejar nasabah ini supaya bisa cuti ikut kamu ke New York lho. Nggak seneng aku ikut?”

@winasoedarjo Dia diem. And stared into my eyes again. Him: ”Seandainya aku bolehin, nggak berarti aku suka, ya.” Me: ”Iya aku tau kamu nggak suka.”

@winasoedarjo Diem lagi. Me: ”Hon, kamu mau pake syarat atau aturan apa aku nurut deh. Asal boleh. Ya Hon, ya? Honey, demi cuti ikut kamu, ya?”

@winasoedarjo Him:” Ya udah. Tapi 1. Aku telepon wajib diangkat. 2. BBM rutin ngasih tau jalan ke mana aja. 3. Pastiin si Adrian itu tau kalau kamu udah punya suami.”

Ogah!!! RT @winasoedarjo: Ditambah satu lagi peraturannya: 4. Wajib lapor sama yang namanya Wina Kinanti Soedarjo juga.

Dalam hati: ditempelin aja sekalian bininya sama GPS, Ben. Tapi terserah deh asal dibolehin.

19 April 2011

My assistant just came to my desk and asked if it’s okay if he’s not coming with me to Kalimantan. He said that his little baby is sick.

Ya sudahlah. I guess I will be alone in Kalimantan.

The Surgeon’s BBM just now: ”Mau aku jemput nanti? Kita makan di luar.” Me: ”Mau, tapi makan di apartemen aja, ya? Aku banyak kerjaan yang harus dibawa pulang..”

Read. Not replied.

The boss signed the surat perjalanan dinas. Adrian's secretary has called asking for my flight booking. The business trip is on then.

Two BBMs arriving in my handset at the same time. The cardiothoracic surgeon and the millionaire playboy.

toyor jidatnya RT @winasoedarjo: Yang satu suaminya, yang satu lagi pacarnya ya, Kak?

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Gue tau kalau si Beno paling BBM-nya ngabsen. Si Adrian ngapain BBM bini orang? *pasang muka judes*

@winasoedarjo Ya ampun, Wina, lo galaknya nular dari laki gue, ya? Bini orang ini banker-nya, dodol! Dia BBM masalah kantor!

Okay, Beno udah nyampe. Tweet you later, ya.

@winasoedarjo WINAAAAAAAA!!!

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw What now, Lexy Darling?

@winasoedarjo Huge fight in the car. Huge. Fuck you, Ben. Thanks fo ruining tonight.

@winasoedarjo I'm tired of us, Win.

Ntar gue ceritain, ya. Panjang, Win. RT @winasoedarjo: Hey hey, kenapa lagi? Piye iki dua bocah berantem mulu.

Oke. "@winasoedarjo: DM aja, Darl, BB nggak ada sinyal di sini."

D winasoedarjo We were in the car, awalnya ngobrol biasa aja.

D winasoedarjo Then I said, dengan nada-nada manja gue yang biasanya works: "Hon, capek tau diabsen-absen mulu sama kamu. Boleh udahan nggak? Udah sebulan."

D winasoedarjo Dan si Beno Wicaksono, laki gue yang juara banget itu menjawab dengan suara datarnya itu.

D winasoedarjo ”Kamu ngerti nggak, Lex, kenapa aku ngabsen?” Me: ”Ngerti, kan dulu kamu udah bilang. Karena kamu sibuk tapi tetep pengen bisa ’deket’ dengan tau aku di mana, kan...”

D winasoedarjo ”...Itu udah tau, terus kenapa nggak mau?” Me: ”Bukan nggak mau, Hon. Tapi capek. Aku kan pasti ngabarin kamu kalau aku mau ke mana atau kenapa, tapi jangan gini.”

D winasoedarjo Dan yang akhirnya bikin gue marah banget itu pas dia ngomong ini, Win: ”Tapi kamu nggak bisa kalau nggak dibeginiin, Lex. Dulu aku kurang perhatian dikit aja, langsung minta cerai...”

D winasoedarjo ”...aku meleng dikit aja, udah pacaran sama si Denny. Sekarang aku perhatian, aku nggak pernah lagi nggak nanya kabar kamu kalau aku sibuk, kamu nggak suka.”

D winasoedarjo Gue marah: ”Apaan sih bawa-bawa Denny? Denny itu adanya setelah kita cerai, nggak usah dibawa-bawa deh, dan kamu bilang dulu karena kamu kurang merhatiin dikit aja terus aku minta cerai?”

D winasoedarjo ”...6 bulan cuma ketemu sarapan, nggak ada ngobrol-ngobrol mesra dikit aja, cuma ngobrol kalau ada maunya aja—itu kamu bilang cuma ’kurang merhatiin dikit’?!”

D winasoedarjo By this point of the argument, gue udah panas banget rasanya. I just wanted to walk out. But we’re in the car, trapped in traffic.

D winasoedarjo So I said: ”Udah ya, Ben, nggak penting berantem-berantem tentang ini lagi.” Him: ”Fine, tapi aku mau kamu denger ini dulu, ya...”

D winasoedarjo ”...dulu kamu protes karena nggak diperhatiin. Protesnya sampe minta cerai. Sekarang diperhatiin dengan aku pengen tau kamu ngapain aja, dibilang berlebihan.”

D winasoedarjo Me: ”Ngasih perhatian itu bukan dengan begitu, Beno. Itu namanya ngabsen. Aku bukan anak kecil lagi yang harus dibeginiin.”

D winasoedarjo You know what he said? ”Tapi kamu memang harus dibeginiin. Kamu nggak bisa dimelengin dikit aja. Meleng dikit, minta cerai. Meleng dikit, pacaran sama orang lain.”

D winasoedarjo Gue bilang ke dia: ”Ya ampun, Beno, jadi selama ini kamu mikirnya aku gitu?”

D winasoedarjo ”Nggak mau dirantai aja sekalian? Ben, apa sih yang ada di pikiran kamu? I love you, otherwise I wouldn’t have married you again.”

D winasoedarjo ”...aku nurut kamu mintanya apa, aku ngurusin kamu, aku nggak pernah macem-macem sama siapa pun, nggak cukup? Masih harus pake absen-absen begini? Nggak percaya?”

D winasoedarjo Dia malah ngomong ini: ”Kalau memang dulu salah, sekarang salah, kasih tau dong, Lex. Aku harus gimana? Aku nggak ngerti kamu deh, beneran. Maunya kamu apa?”

D winasoedarjo ”...atau harusnya aku nanya si Denny itu aja, dulu merhatiin kamunya gimana sampe kamu mau sama dia?” Beno said this, Win.

D winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Aduh, Beno, kok ngomongnya gitu....

D winasoedarjo Can you believe he actually said that?! Asshole!

D winasoedarjo I screamed: ”Fuck you, Ben!” Gue tau ini kasar banget tapi gue nggak bisa nahan lagi.

D winasoedarjo Him: (Suaranya tenang banget pas ngomong ini, makin bikin emosi) ”Begitu ya caranya sekarang ngomong sama suami sendiri?”

D winasoedarjo Gue diem, for like 20 to 30 seconds. Udah males ngomong.

D winasoedarjo Then, entah kenapa, dia harus mancing emosi lagi dengan ngomong begini, tetep dengan suaranya yang sok tenang itu: ”Udah puas maki-makinya?”

D winasoedarjo Gue udah setengah mati nahan biar nggak nangis. I said, menghela napas: ”Ben, udah ya. Before we say things we’re going to regret later.”

D winasoedarjo Dia diam, tampangnya kenceng marah tetap nyetir dan merhatiin jalan. That’s the last word we said to each other.

D winasoedarjo We’re home, I’m now crying soaking in this bubble bath, gue nggak tau dia di mana. Tadi begitu masuk apartemen gue langsung masuk kamar dan mandi.

D winasoedarjo I don’t even fucking care. Mending gue nggak liat mukanya dulu daripada gue tampar beneran.

You can only be hurt by the people that you love itu bener banget, ya?

D winasoedarjo Argh, fuck this. I’m just gonna go to sleep now. And Beno, don’t talk to me until you understand what you just did to me.

D winasoedarjo Shit, nggak bisa tidur gue. Kata-katanya tentang Denny itu masih nyesek banget sampe sekarang. Sakit banget. Do you even love me, Ben?

20 April 2011

Oh crap, mata gue bengkak dan ada breakfast meeting dengan nasabah penting pagi ini.

At the Ritz Carlton for the breakfast meeting. Kayaknya mata gue mendingan setelah tadi dikompres. The breakfast meeting is done. One new client to work on untuk target Juni. Happy!

Well, happy for the office thing, at least. Yang di rumah sih masih bikin pengen bakar orang.

Menurut lo? RT @winasoedarjo: Belum damai juga?

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Lah, tadi malem jadi ujungnya gimana?

@winasoedarjo Until I fell asleep last night, si Beno belum masuk-masuk kamar.

@winasoedarjo When I woke up this morning, he's still asleep in bed next to me tapi nggak gulingin gue kayak biasanya. He stayed on his side of the bed.

@winasoedarjo Baguslah, berani-berani gue tendang juga.

@winasoedarjo No BBM, no texting, no phonecall, no absen. Biar rasain.

Nggak. Nggak matching ya nggak matching deh situ, nggak peduli gue. RT @winasoedarjo: Tadi pagi bajunya masih lo siapin nggak kayak biasanya? ;)

Ya nggaklah. Makan Popmie aja sana. RT @winasoedarjo: Hahaha. Kejam. Scrambled egg-nya lo bikinin juga nggak?

@winasoedarjo Gue tadi nelepon si Mbok, nanya si nyebelin itu sarapan apa, katanya cuma sarapan kopi dan langsung berangkat. Lo tau dia nanya apa?

@winasoedarjo ”Ada scrambled egg bikinan istri saya nggak?” Ya nggak adalah! Udah dengan mulut kurang ajar tadi malam masih ngarep dimasakin?

Halah! Udah ya, gue mau meeting lagi. Thanks for listening, sweetheart! RT @winasoedarjo: Kan dia tahunya lo cinta mati sama dia, jadi mau dia nyebelin gimanapun lo pasti sayang-sayang sama dia ;)

The flights are booked for tomorrow: CGK-BPN GA 514 08.20-11.25, fly back on Friday BPN-CGK GA 521 18.25-19.25.

Cita-cita hari ini: pulang jam 5, packing buat besok, dan tidur. Daripada ketemu dan berantem lagi. I’m too tired physically and emotionally.

Just got out of a long meeting. Sitting in my desk now, still angry with you know who.

I’m way past angry sebenarnya. Ini marah, capek, dan sedih. Capek. I’m tired of us, Ben.

Ten days before he’s leaving for New York and he has to pull that ”kamu memang harus dibeginiin” thing.

”Meleng dikit minta cerai. Meleng dikit pacaran sama Denny.” What the hell does that even mean, Ben?

Finally got out of the office.

Home. Bubble bath. Packing. Target kelar: jam 7 biar tidur sebelum laki-laki paling nyebelin sedunia itu pulang.

@winasoedarjo Kebangun tengah malem with Beno tidur nyenyak, mendengkur halus spooning me. The same position since he woke me up and apologized to me earlier.

DM ya RT @winasoedarjo: Spooning? Udah baikan?

D winasoedarjo Si nyebelin ini tadi nyampe apartemen jam 9an dan gue udah tidur, sesuai rencana of not meeting him daripada berantem lagi.

D winasoedarjo And he got into bed next to me, and I woke up feeling him spooning me, nggak seerat sekarang, and his hand rubbing my back.

D winasoedarjo Gue kebangun, dia bilang: "Sayang, sori ya aku bangunin. I need to talk to you..." Me: "Aku capek. Besok pagi mau terbang." Him: "Iya, bentar aja ya, Yang."

D winasoedarj: Kalau orang ini ngomongnya sama kasarnya kayak kemarin malam, udah gue tendang, Win.

D winasoedarjo But what he did was this: he kissed the back of my neck. Gue masih munggungin dia dan dia meluk gue dari belakang.

D winasoedarjo And he said: "Aku jahat banget tadi malem ya, Yang?" Gue diem aja.

D winasoedarjo Then he said this: "Sayang banget sama kamu, Yang. Sayang banget. Tapi kok susah banget buat aku bikin kamu ngerti itu ya, Yang?"

D winasoedarjo I still didn't say anything. He went on: "Aku tau cara aku sayang sama kamu itu nggak romantis dan nggak pinter kayak laki-laki lain, tapi aku bisanya begini."

D winasoedarjo I said: "Tapi nggak perlu kamu tadi malem sampe ngomong bawa-bawa si Denny segala. Itu nyakitin aku, Ben. Nyesek tau rasanya."

D winasoedarjo Him: "Iya, aku emosi banget aja tadi malem. Maafin aku ya, Sayang."

D winasoedarjo Gue diem. He said: "Dulu kamu minta cerai karena

aku nggak perhatian, cuma mikirin pasien, nggak pernah dengerin kamu...

D winasoedarjo "...sekarang, aku udah dapetin kamu lagi, kita udah menikah lagi. Aku nggak mau mengulangi kesalahan yang sama. Karena itu aku sebegininya sama kamu, Yang..."

Hhhhhhhhhh .... RT @winasoedarjo: Awww, isn't he sweet?

D winasoedarjo "...aku nggak bisa kayak dulu, yang nggak pernah nanya-nanya kabar kamu seharian, nggak pernah dengerin kamu. Karena dengan tetep kayak gitu, it will cost me losing you again..."

D winasoedarjo "...kalau kamu jadi merasa diabsen, maksudnya nggak begitu, Sayang. Aku cuma nggak bisa bikin kamu mikir bahwa dengan aku sibuk di rumah sakit, aku nggak mikirin kamu..."

D winasoedarjo "...aku jahat banget sama kamu tadi malem. Aku sadar, Yang. Tapi marahnya jangan lama-lama ya, Sayang. Nggak tahan kamu beginiin, Yang..."

D winasoedarjo "...jadi marahnya udah ya, Sayang. Masa besok kamu mau pergi suaminya dimusuhin begini? Udahan ya?"

D winasoedarjo Dia meluk gue makin kenceng and kissed the back of my neck again. Him: "Udah ya, Yang, marahnya?"

Hhh, Beno, Beno, untung gue cinta mati juga sama dia, kalau nggak... RT @winasoedarjo: Dimaafin, kan? Kasian, Lex, he really loves you, you know.

D winasoedarjo So I turned around, saw his sad face yang nggak sampe hati banget liatnya, and kissed him.

D winasoedarjo Seneng banget mukanya abis gue cium. Gimana mau marah lagi coba?

D winasoedarjo I better get back to sleep now, kasian dia kalau

kebangun, tadi malem nggak tidur sampe jam 3 katanya. Good night, Win.

D winasoedarjo And we forgot to use protection tonight. Ntar hamil, ya hamil deh.

D winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Gue doain hamil! Maybe a kid can finally cool down you both, the most hot headed couple on earth ;)

21 April 2011

Just made scrambled egg for the Surgeon and dia makannya kayak udah nggak makan 3 hari. Norak deh ini orang.

He said, "Aku aja yang nganter kamu ke bandara, ya." I smiled. So tweet you later.

At the airport. Si Adrian sableng ini changed my ticket jadi business class biar duduk di sebelah dia.

Touchdown Balikpapan.

Adrian: "Kita check in ke hotel dulu, kali ya. Biar kamu bisa istirahat dulu sebelum ke pabriknya." Me: "Sure."

We dropped the pak/bu routine on the flight, he insisted: "Panggil saya Adrian aja, ya. Nggak usah pake bapak. Yang bapak-bapak itu bapak saya...

...and you are way too young to be called ibu. Nggak keberatan kan pakai nama aja?" Me: "I kind of feel direspectful deh manggil Bapak dengan nama."

He laughed: "I really don't mind. Malah keberatan kalau dipanggil bapak. Kan kita bukan orang Indonesia kebanyakan yang harus pake bapak/ibu untuk nunjukin respect."

Ya sudahlah, gue males berdebat juga.

Untung lo bukan asisten laki gue, ya. Kalau nggak, udah abis dia lo panas-panasin tiap hari. RT @winasoedarjo: Oooo, jadi udah panggil nama sekarang? Nggak sekalian pakai panggilan sayang aja? *lapor Beno*

Heh!! *ngakak* RT @winasoedarjo: Ogah gue jadi asisten laki lo. Udah galak, oom-oom pula.

Today's itinerary: 13.00 lunch, 14.00 OTS to his project site, 18.00 back at the hotel, 19.30 dinner.

I'm in my hotel room at Novotel Balikpapan now. And yes, gue udah absen ke Beno.

Anyway, this Adrian guy, despite his reputation, sebenernya sopan banget dan temen ngobrol yang enak. The 2 hours flight was not boring at all.

Bedanya dengan my baby... Eh jadi nggak enak ngebanding-bandingin gini.

I mean, you know how Beno is never a conversationalist. Kalau ngobrol, selalu gue yang menghidupkan percakapan, dia sih ya ya aja.

Pinter ngerayunya kalau lagi minta maaf doang, kayak tadi malem. Other than that, lempeng kayak jalan tol.

Which is why dulu gue fascinated by him dan honestly, the way he is itu bikin penasaran sejak waktu gue dan dia kenalan di Java Jazz itu.

Nggak pernah ngasih kejutan, suka lupa tanggal penting kayak birthday dan anniversary, kalau ngomong miskin basa-basi or sweet-talk.

Banyak permintaan, rewel, moody, suka marah nggak jelas, cemburuan luar biasa, dan suka "ilang" di dunianya sendiri (his job).

Kenapa gue dulu bisa jatuh cinta sama dia, ya?

Ini the Surgeon kelar ngoperasinya jam berapa? Masa gue nge-tweet-tweet norak begini mulu supaya nggak ketiduran nungguin dia kelar dan bisa nelepon gue?

Buat pertanyaan tentang punya anak, gue mau jelasin agak panjang dikit boleh, ya?

Bagi gue dan Beno, punya anak itu bukan sesuatu yang bisa kita take lightly.

Punya anak berarti punya tanggung jawab bersama yang nggak bisa main-main, both of us harus committed gimana membesarkan anak itu dengan rencana yang jelas.

Ini bukan sekadar masalah harus punya duit buat tabungan sekolahnya, buat CordLife, buat membesarkan dia with the best that we can afford.

Ini juga masalah kalau nanti dia lahir, will Beno and I have enough time to be a good parent to the kid?

Kami nggak mau punya anak terus cuma bisa ketemu dia malem pas gue dan Beno udah pulang kerja. That's not raising a kid.

That's bikin anak, melahirkan, terus nitip ke babysitter or our parents to raise the baby. Sementara gue dan Beno kebagian gendong-gendong malam aja.

And for us, to be ready to function together as parents, we have to function together as husband and wife.

Yang bagian ini aja, we're both still learning. Marriage is not easy. Sticking together no matter what is not a walk in the park.

Dan rasanya nggak adil membawa anak ke dunia ini di antara kami berdua sementara ayah ibunya aja jadi suami-istri masih berantakan begini.

That's how we came up with the 3 years period. 2 tahun berdua aja dulu, tahun ke-3 baru mulai usaha hamil.

Dan mudah-mudahan di tahun ke-3 itu, gue dan dia udah sama-sama dewasa untuk bisa make the changes needed—including our career—to raise the baby.

Kepanjangan ya jawabannya? Hehehe. Abis bosen ditanya-tanya kenapa nggak punya anak sekarang.

The busiest surgeon in Jakarta just called me: "Lex, baru kelar operasinya. Aku pulang dulu ya, nanti nyampe apartemen aku telepon lagi. "Me: "Iya, Hon."

It's already 11.38 PM in Balikpapan, by the way.

One thing I hate about business trips: sleeping alone in this creepy hotel rooms. Well, mungkin dasar gue penakut aja.

So shall we watch Disney Channel in its full volume then?

22 April 2011

Breakfast at the hotel. The rest of the day is going to be one hell of a ride ke PKS-nya Adrian yang in the middle of nowhere itu.

Bumpy bumpy ride to the PKS inside Adrian's Ford Everest.

He flirted a little bit this morning, atau cuma bercandaan khas cowok, kali ya. At breakfast, he casually asked me if I have a kid.

I answered: ”Belum. Saya dan suami baru menikah.” Him: ”Oh ya? Baru berapa lama?” Me: ”5 bulan.”

I decided to ask back for basa-basi: ”Kamu sudah punya anak?” He laughed: ”Saya belum menikah, Alexandra.”

Then he smiled: ”Belum ketemu yang cocok. Kalau saya kenal kamu 6 bulan yang lalu, mungkin jawabannya beda.”

I laughed walau dalam hati: monyeeeeeeet.

Beno just BBM me: ”Kamu lagi ngapain? Boleh aku telepon?” Me: ”Jangan sekarang ya, Hon. Lagi di mobil sama nasabahnya. Nggak enak.”

Him: ”Sama si Adrian itu maksud kamu?” Me: ”Iya.” Him: ”Nggak enak kedengeran sama dia kalau kamu ditelepon suami?”

Mulai deh ini orang, salah posisi bangun, kali ya. Me: ”Honey, pagi-pagi cranky deh. Udah sarapan?” Him: ”Belum.” Me: ”Nggak dibikinin sama si Mbok?”

Him: ”Dibikinin, tapi nggak enak. Nggak selera. Pengennya kamu yang bikin.” Me: ”Hehehe dasar manja. Makan dong. Sakit ntar, Hon. Ya?”

Him: ”Beneran nggak boleh nelepon nih?” Me: (Cari kata-kata yang pas biar si manja ini nggak ngomel dan nggak ngambek)

”Aku masih di jalan, Hon. Pengennya kan mesra-mesraan sama kamu di telepon, nggak enak kalau di depan orang. Ntar begitu nyampe aku telepon ya, Hon.”

Read, not replied. I typed again: ”Miss you like hell, Hon.”

Coba tebak balasannya apa? Him: ”Sama.”

Udah segitu doang. Nggak ”miss you too” atau ”miss you more” atau apa kek. Sama. Titik. Nggak BBM lagi. Emang beneran deh laki gue ini ajaib, ya.

Akhirnya nyampe juga. Gila badan gue udah mau patah-patah begini. The road was ugly!

Monyeeet. Si Adrian ini manis banget tangannya barusan makein helm proyek ke kepala gue.

Quick lunch at the factory before driving back to Balikpapan. Nggak sabar pengen terbang balik ke Jakarta.

Aaaah, back inside my hotel room. Got almost 3 hours before we have to leave to the airport. Nap it is. Pengen dipijet sebenernya.

Already at the airport, boarding to Jakarta now. Tweet you later :)

Touchdown Jakarta. Dan keren nggak sih, dokter bedah jantung paling sibuk se-Jakarta malam ini udah nungguin gue di arrival gate, smiling. Your wife is home, Hon :)

I love our bed.

And he’s doing what he promised to make me feel better: cuddling me. Nggak apa-apa deh, Ben, kamu nggak pinter merayu asal sering-sering peluk-peluk bini kayak gini ;)

Only two weekends left until he’s flying to New York. I hate being reminded of the fact that he’s going away on the 6th of May for 6 whole weeks.

Kalau lagi berdua begini, gue selalu teringat waktu dia melamar kedua kali. Really, it’s nothing romantic.

6 bulan setelah gue dan Beno mulai pacaran lagi, we were in the car, he just picked me up from the airport malem-malem. Seingat gue waktu itu udah jam 9-an.

I was so tired, jadi pas ngobrol sama dia sambil teler setengah-setengah ketiduran gitu. Jadi ngobrolnya juga nggak serius.

Macetnya sinting karena Jakarta hujan deras, so we'd been stuck in traffic for like an hour.

Suddenly, pas gue ngantuk-ngantuk hampir ketiduran gitu, he touched my hand and rub it, saying: ”Lex, boleh nanya sesuatu nggak?”

Gue jawab males-malesan lemes ngantuk: ”Nanya apa, Ben?”

Him: ”Kamu dan aku sekarang, yang entah apa namanya ini karena kamu bilang lucu kalau seumuran kita disebut pacar-pacaran, kalau kita kasih nama lain aja boleh nggak?”

Me: ”Apa, Ben?” Him: ”Kawin.”

Sumpah gue waktu itu kaget setengah mati dan langsung melek. Dia ngomong ”kawin”-nya itu lempeng banget!

Me: (Gugup) ”Ummm... maksudnya?”

The car was not moving saking macetnya, jadi dia menoleh dan menatap gue. Him: ”Aku nggak bisa lihat kamu sama siapa-siapa lagi sampe kapan pun...

...aku juga nggak mau sama siapa-siapa lagi. Jadi kita nggak usah lagi jadi entah apa namanya ini dan jadi suami-istri lagi aja, ya.”

Gue bengong. Secara waktu itu kami baru balik pacaran lagi 6 bulan.

Dan ini sangat tidak romantis dilamar di tengah-tengah macet begini, Benooo! Waktu itu pengen teriak gitu rasanya.

Terus dia ngeluarin kotak kecil dari dasbor. Gue bengong lagi ngeliat kotak kecilnya Cartier dan ada cincin berlian di dalamnya.

Buset, kali ini melamarnya niat. Secara dulu ya, waktu melamar pertama kali, pake cincin pun kagak. Tapi kalau niat kenapa harus di mobil, Ben?

Ngeliat gue speechless begitu, dia ngomong lagi: ”Ehm maafin aku ya, Lex. Melamarnya di macet-macet begini...

...tadinya mau melamar kamu di apartemen kamu aja kalau kita udah nyampe, tapi ini macetnya nggak jelas gini. Jadi aku udah nggak tahan mau ngomongnya.”

Then dengan gaya canggungnya kalau ngomong itu, dia bilang sambil menatap mata gue: ”Mau?”

That’s right, saudara-saudara, laki gue yang sekarang sedang meluk-meluk gue ini dulu nanyanya cuma dengan muka lempeng dan satu kata: ”Mau?” Stres nggak lo dengernya?

Secara gue udah kena hipnotis atau apa nggak ngerti deh ya, karena cinta mati juga kali, gue ngangguk doang. Malu-maluin ya gue.

Dia senyum kesenengan, masukin cincin ke jari gue, nyium gue, terus ya udah kami macet-macetan lagi. See? Nggak romantis :)

That night when we’re already at my apartment, I said to him: ”Tapi kamu juga harus ngomong ke Bapak-Ibu ya, Ben.” Him: ”Besok ya.”

The next day, we came to my parents house over lunch, dan dia dengan santun pake bahasa Jawa melamar gue ke bapak-ibu gue.

Yang bikin gue agak kaget juga, my parents said yes dengan gampangnya.

Pada malam sebelum akad nikah, akhirnya gue tau kenapa setujunya gampang banget, setelah ibu gue menceritakan sesuatu.

My mom: ”Nduk, 9 bulan yang lalu, tanpa kamu tau, Beno dateng menghadap Bapak dan Ibu untuk mohon maaf karena dulu menceraikan kamu...

...setelah minta maaf, Beno juga minta izin Bapak dan Ibu untuk mendekati kamu lagi dan menikahi kamu lagi.”

9 bulan yang lalu itu, gue sama Beno belum ada apa-apa, masih ketemu-ketemu nggak sengaja di nasgor Sabang itu.

Gue kaget. Segitunya si Beno ini ya, baru mau deketin gue lagi aja dia udah dengan gentleman-nya menghadap pamit dulu ke orangtua gue. Love him.

Pantes pas melamar beneran gampang banget disetujuinya. Udah transaksi forward rupanya ;)

Dia nggak mau menunggu lama-lama, so 2 months after I said yes to his proposal, we got married, again.

Dengan persiapan yang serbakilat dan jungkir-balik. He said: ”Nggak peduli deh kalau persiapan express gini atau keluar duitnya berapa. Yang penting aku maunya cepat.”

So we had akad nikah and small wedding only for close friends and family di rumah Imam Bonjol situ. Definitely smaller dibanding our first.

Jadi ya begitulah pengalaman gue dilamar pas ngantuk-ngantuk lemes dan capek di tengah macet. Sama sekali nggak romantis, kan ya?

Minta izin dulu ke Bokap-Nyokap gue itu sweet, ya?

Anyway, udah dulu ya. The Surgeon udah ngomel supaya gue tidur dan mau nyita BB dan iPad ini. Tweet you later.

23 April 2011

He just woke up, and the first thing that he said was: ”Lex, laper. Scrambled egg ya. Boleh pake sosis nggak?”

So here I am now in the kitchen cooking this dengan mata setengah terbuka.

Si Mbok udah gue ajarin berulang-ulang, secara I travel a lot for work, tetep aja ya si manja nyebelin ini nggak suka kalau bukan gue yang bikin.

Kadang gue iseng ngerjain dan gue bikin asin banget, eh tetep dimakan walau mimik mukanya nggak jelas, hahaha.

I asked Beno: ”Enak nggak, Hon?” Dia ngangguk-ngangguk kesenengan.

Berantem lagi di mobil. Nice. Nggak bisa tenang-tenang aja ya kita, Ben?

Coba tebak topik yang bikin berantem kali ini apa.

Adrian. My God, the ego on this guy. Cemburuannya luar biasa.

Well, you know us. RT @winasoedarjo: AGAIN???

@winasoedarjo: Awalnya sih cuma ngobrol-ngobrol biasa aja, dia nanyain how was the trip to Balikpapan dan di sana ngapain aja. Tadi malam nggak sempet ngobrol soalnya.

@winasoedarjo: Ujung-ujungnya ngabsen every minute gue ngapain aja di sana. Terus ngomel-ngomel tentang Adrian.

@winasoedarjo: Ini belum gue ceritain flirting-flirting-nya si Adrian yang nggak penting itu. Apalagi kalau diceritain, bisa ngamuk.

@winasoedarjo: I said: ”Hon, udah deh. Kan aku udah bilang aku nggak apa-apa, aku bisa jaga diri. Kamu jangan interogasi-interogasi gini mulu dong. Nggak percaya sama aku?”

@winasoedarjo: Him: ”Bukan kamu yang aku nggak percaya, dia yang aku nggak percaya.” Me: ”Ya udah. Kalau gitu kenapa marah-marahnya sama aku, Hon.”

@winasoedarjo: Then he went on saying that I should avoid guys yang udah jelas-jelas playboy kayak gitu. Him: ”Nggak perlu kamu ramah-ramah sama dia. Ntar merasa dapet angin.”

Hhh... RT @winasoedarjo: cemburu itu tanda sayang lho, Darl ;)

@winasoedarjo: Gue bilang ini ke dia: ”Ya ampun, Hon. Aku ramah-ramahnya kan normal. Dia nasabah, masa aku ketusin? Aku tau batas kok, Hon. Percayaan dikit kek sama bininya.”

@winasoedarjo: Masih aja ngomel panjang-lebar. Gue udah males, kalau dijawab-jawab ntar dianya makin panas, jadi gue diem aja.

@winasoedarjo: Udah diem gitu, dia malah ngomong: ”Kok kamu diem aja?”

@winasoedarjo: So I used senjatanya perempuan: menatap dia dengan muka sedih dan ngomong, ”Hon, aku tuh kangen banget pengen manja-manjaan sama kamu. Nggak usah berantem lagi ya.”

Of course ;) RT @winasoedarjo: LOL did it work?

Next time ya, Ben, kasih tau tombol marah dan ademnya kamu itu di mana. Biar nggak susah-susah kalau tiap kamu cari berantem, aku tinggal pencet.

The Surgeon barusan ngeluarin satu DVD dari traveling bag: ”Nonton ini aja yuk, Lex. Aku baru beli kemaren.”

Filmnya adalah... *The Tourist*. Ini sih ketauan banget mau melototin Angelina Jolie doang.

Perempuan mana yang nggak minder abis sama Angelina Jolie, ya?

Apalagi di *The Tourist*, sumpah dia cantik banget di situ. Gue jadi kayak keset.

Ya ampun, yang adegan si Angelina pake gaun tidur white silk ini. Wonder if I can be at least half as hot as she is kalau gue yang pake...

Yang di sebelah, muka sok cool tapi nggak ngedip.

Kesimpulan setelah selesai nonton *The Tourist* gini: the Surgeon saying to me, "Sayang, besok kamu beli gaun tidur kayak gitu dong."

Gubrak nggak sih. Gue bengong.

Yak, BB udah mau disita sama yang bersangkutan. Tweet you later, ya. Have an awesone Saturday night, y'all!

Jreng jreng, nggak jadi tidur dong. Ada yang merengek pengen nasi uduk malem-malem. So we're now driving to Kebon Kacang. Perut laki gue juara deh.

I am married to a man who keeps a naga inside his belly. Jangan cepet-cepet buncit ya, Hon. Please jangan sampe buncit beneran. Nggak ganteng lagi ntar.

So now we're eating at this nasi uduk place. And yeah, gue terpaksa ikut makan juga. Carbo tengah malem. Juaraaaa!

Gue barusan ngelus-ngelus pinggangnya: "Hon, inget love handles, ya."

24 April 2011

Guess what the Surgeon just said to me as he sits on the pantry and I'm making his breakfast.

Him: ”Lex, beneran ya hari ini beli yang aku bilang tadi malem?”

Gue bengong: ”Serius?” Him: ”Serius, ya?” Me: ”Kamu yang bayar, ya?” Him: ”Iya terserah berapa. Yang penting hari ini.”

Gue ketawa dalam hati. Belum tau aja dia Victoria’s Secret itu harganya mahal.

I suddenly found this poem by Pablo Neruda that I could practically say to Beno right now.

RT @NerudaLove: I have not left you when I go away.

RT @NerudaLove: Think no more, my sweet, about the anguish that went on between us like a bolt of phosphorous leaving us perhaps its burning.

RT @NerudaLove: I found you after the storm, the rain washed the air and in the water your sweet feet gleamed like fishes.

Off to Kemang for the lingerie hunting. There’s this small shop there that sells Victoria’s Secret, AP, and the likes.

Lingerie shopping with the husband is weird and funny at the same time.

I usually do this alone or sometimes with Wina, but seumur-umur never with Beno.

The doctor ini very shy ya, so we worked out this little system where he sits in the corner and BBM me what he likes.

This store is pretty small, so he could see almost all the stuff from where he’s sitting and can make his picks.

Dan si Beno ini nggak berhenti BBM dari tadi. Gue sih mau-mau aja ya, tapi yakin ini nggak pusing ntar bayarnya? Hehehe.

He just BBM me this: ”Lex, yang slutty nurse gitu dong.” Me:

(Menoleh melotot ke dia) ”What?! Jadi selama ini punya fantasi gitu ama perawat kamu, ya?”

Him: ”Bukaaaan.” Me: ”Jadi kenapa minta begitu?” Him: ”Pengen liat kamu make. Ya ya?”

I glanced at him across the room yang lagi ngeliat ke arah gue dengan muka memohon. I replied: ”Ya udah.” Him: ”Asiik.”

The slutty nurse lingerie, by the way, is at 900k. Jangan kaget ntar liat harganya ya, Hon. Yang minta siapa.

Gue lagi senyum-senyum sendiri ngeliat mukanya Beno yang kaget setengah mati liat hasil swipe yang mau dia tanda tangani. 3,5jt aja dong.

We’re back in the car. Mukanya masih bengong. Me: ”Kenapa, Hon?” Him: ”Jadi suami kamu mahal banget ya, Lex?”

I laughed: ”Enak aja, yang minta tadi siapa?” Him: ”Aku sih, tapi kan nggak tau harganya segitu.” Me: ”Emang segituan, Honey. Kamu kirain murah?”

Him: (Dengan muka polos) ”Aku kirain karena kainnya dikit ya makin murah.” I laughed again: ”I’m afraid the logic doesn’t work that way, Honey.”

Laki gue polos banget ya. Ketauan banget dulu zaman sekolah nerd-nerd gitu jadi nggak ngerti beginian hehehe.

But if you ask me, gue bersyukur end up with a guy like this, despite the men I’ve dated before him. Yang ”ahli” justru malah bikin pusing.

So if you find a guy like this, yang nggak macem-macem, dan sayang banget sama lo, udah deh kawinin aja. Hidup lo akan tenang. Percaya deh ama gue.

Sure akan banyak yang bikin makan hati, like his insensitivity. Tapi setelah gue pikir-pikir, his insensitivity itu karena dia emang nggak ngerti how to treat a woman.

But this is in my humble opinion aja, by the way :)

Damn, Alexandra Rhea Wicaksono, you totally rock this Angelina Jolie's white nighties.

Mission accomplished. Twice ;)

Way too tired and worn out and sleepy to do anything after tonight, tapi masih harus melembur nota analisis kredit project-nya si Adrian ini. Shit.

Perjuangan untuk cuti ke New York ini kampret banget deh susahnya. Shit. Shit. Shit.

In bed, the laptop on my lap and the project files all over. Beno nemenin di sebelah sambil nonton Arsenal.

Kebalik kali, ya. Nonton Arsenal sambil nemenin gue maksudnya.

Beno barusan confiscated my laptop dan menyingkirkan semua berkas-berkas. Bubar deh.

26 April 2011

Kepala gue perlu diceburin ke baskom isi air es kayaknya.

Ryan was laughing at my lunch which is Hoka-hoka Bento box at my desk. He said: "Demi, ya." Me: "Udah deh, mingkem." Him: "Hahaha. Maraaah."

Yeah, I'm eating at my desk whilst working.

Analisis kampret. Analisis kampret. Analisis kampret. Analisis kampret.

Gue lagi pusing-pusingnya dengan analisis kredit si Adrian itu, so I sent Beno a BBM saying this: ”Hon, lagi pusing banget nih.”

Read. Not replied. For like half an hour.

When he finally replied, he just BBM me this: ”Terus?”

Ya ampun, udah sekian lama nunggunya dibalas ”terus” doang.

I replied: ”Dihibur dong, Hon.”

Guess what was his respond to that.

He BBM me this: ”Masih pusing? Minum Aspirin aja ya. Aku mau operasi.”

Gue gondok.

Wanted to scream: kalau gue mau minum Aspirin doang, gue nggak akan BBM lo, Monyeeet.

Reseeeh! RT @winasoedarjo: Jadi setelah honey, baby, the Surgeon, now monyet?”

Absen malam: ”Ahmed udah aku suruh harus nunggu kamu, jangan pulang lebih dari jam 8, ya.”

Pengen balas dengan: ”Injih, Ndoro.”

Oh shit! Shit! Shit! Mampus gue! Barusan kepencet dan kekirim balasan ”Injih, Ndoro” itu ke dia! MAMPUS GUE!

Yak, akibat BBM itu, we just fought on the phone. Again.

Tolol sih gue, ya. Ngapain juga iseng ngetik itu, jadi kepencet.

He called me immediately after he read my reply. Langsung jantungan, pengen pipis di tempat gue ngangkat teleponnya.

Menurut lo? RT @winasoedarjo: Hahahaha, ini berantemnya gara-gara ’injih ndoro’ doang?

@winasoedarjo Bpk. Beno Wicaksono itu nanya gue dengan suara dinginnya: ”Lex, apa itu maksudnya ngomong injih ndoro?”

@winasoedarjo Gue gagu nggak bisa ngomong apa-apa. Him: ”Maksudnya kamu merasa aku kayak majikan kamu gitu? Karena suka ngasih aturan ke kamu?”

Reseh! Dengerin dulu ceritanya! RT @winasoedarjo: Hahaha, dimarahin majikan nih yeeee ;)

@winasoedarjo Pucet gue. I said: ”Bukan, Hon. Sori tadi maksudnya bukan gitu.” Him: ”Terus maksudnya apa?” Me: ”Bercanda doang, Hon. Kepencet.”

@winasoedarjo Him: ”Manggil aku ndoro itu bercanda?” Me: ”Hon, maksud aku itu...” Him: ”Alexandra, kalau nggak suka diatur-atur, ngomong aja terus terang.”

@winasoedarjo ”...kamu nggak suka kan karena merasa aku ngatur-ngatur kamu kayak aku majikan kamu? Begitu, kan?” Me: ”Ben, jangan diseriusin gitu dong. Bercanda tadi.”

Kan gue nggak bermaksud ngomong langsung ke dia, cuma karena sebel aja tadi RT @winasoedarjo Lagian elu, pakai manggil-manggil dia ndoro.

@winasoedarjo Si Beno marah: ”Kalau kamu memang udah nggak bisa aku atur-atur lagi. Ya udah, biar aku tau aja.” Me: ”Ya ampun, Beno. Kok jadi gitu sih kamu ngomongnya?”

@winasoedarjo Gue cuma bisa minta maaf: ”Udah ya, Hon. Aku minta maaf, ya.” Him: ”Aku udah nggak ngerti lagi harus gimanain kamu ya, Lex. Beneran deh.”

@winasoedarjo ”...kalau aku perhatiin kok nggak pernah diterima dengan baik? Diabsen biar nggak merasa diabaikan, marah. Disuruh pulang cepet, menganggap aku kayak majikan.”

@winasoedarjo Jadi panjang, kan? Gara-gara 2 kata doang. Kepancing panas juga gue jadinya.

@winasoedarjo Gue coba jelasin: ”Ben, bukan gitu. Aku ngerti kamu niatnya baik, tapi nunjukin perhatian itu nggak harus kayak begitu, kan?”

@winasoedarjo Wanna know what he said? ”Ya udah. kalau gitu kamu maunya gimana kamu tulis aja deh biar aku ngikutin manual dari kamu aja gimana.” Gila, kan?

@winasoedarjo Gue bilang: ”Ya ampun, Honey, relationship doesn’t work that way. Masa aku harus nulis maunya aku gimana ke kamu? We should be learning each other, Hon.”

@winasoedarjo Dan dia malah jawab begini: ”Mau learning gimana lagi? Aku udah capek nyoba berbagai cara yang ujungnya, aku malah dianggap majikan. Jadi maunya kamu apa?”

@winasoedarjo Gondok gue, Wina, gondooook!

@winasoedarjo Gue ngomel dong: ”Ben, ini aku kasih contoh ya kalau mau ngasih perhatian. Tadi siang aku BBM kamu bilang aku pusing, kamu perhatian nggak? Malah ngacir operasi.”

@winasoedarjo Dia malah jawab begini coba: ”Lho, kan aku udah bilang supaya minum obat? Kurang perhatian apa?”

@winasoedarjo Gregetan nggak lo dengernya? Gue sih hampir gigit-gigit meja kantor. Buset ya ini orang!

@winasoedarjo Gue bilang ke dia: ”Beno, kalau aku cuma mau minum obat buat ngilangin pusing, aku nggak akan nelepon kamu. Masa kamunya nggak ngerti sih? Akunya disayang-sayang kek lewat telepon.”

@winasoedarjo And my husband responded this way: ”Oh, jadi itu nyuruh minum obat bukan sayang namanya? Susah ya sama kamu, Lex.”

@winasoedarjo Me: ”Aduh Ben, udah deh ya, nggak lucu maghrib-maghrib gini berantem. Talk to you at home aja deh, ya.” Him: ”Aku udah mau jalan pulang. Kamu jangan lama-lama.”

@winasoedarjo You know what he did? ...he hung up the phone. Panas gue. Panaaaaas!

Arrgghhhh! RT @winasoedarjo: Sabar, Jeng, sabar. Kayak baru kenal aja. Kalau berharap dimanis-manisin, jangan kawin sama Beno Wicaksono.

Pembalasan: dilamain aja pulangnya. Mending gue melembur di kantor daripada pulang-pulang berantem lagi jadi nggak bisa ngerjain laporan.

How screwed up is our relationship that we cannot even survive 7 days without fighting?

Who the fuck am I kidding with the whole 7 days? Baru 2 hari aja udah can’t wait to scream at each other’s throat.

And he wanted me to just write him a manual on how to treat me? How insulting is that? Make the effort to learn about your wife, Beno!

Kantor udah mengosong. Pulang aja deh kalau gini.

Have been chanting ”don’t fight” a hundred times on the way home. My headache is already too much to bear without any more fighting with him.

Gimana mau marah kalau pulang-pulang nemuin yang begini ketiduran di sofa?

Kasian mukanya capek gitu. Will wake him up later. Gonna take my bubble bath first now.

Ganteng ya laki gue? Nyebelin mampus sih, but he's still my hot husband.

I just woke him up by rubbing his belly: "Hon...". Him: (Ngulet) "Kamu baru pulang?" Me: "Nggak, udah dari tadi kok. Ini udah mandi. Udah makan belum?"

Him: "Belum." Me: (decided to tease him, cara paling ampuh biar yang bersangkutan nggak marah-marah) "Mau aku bikinin apa, Ndoro?"

Mukanya langsung merengut lagi dong: "Apa sih, Lex, panggil-panggil aku ndoro?"

I laughed and gave him a quick kiss: "Serius banget sih kamu, Hon. Jangan marah-marah mulu gitu dong. Dibercandain bininya dikit langsung marah-marah."

Him: "Jangan panggil-panggil ndoro lagi tapi, ya." Me: "Iya. Mau makan apa jadinya, Honey?" Him: "Bikinin nasi goreng sama telur ceplok mau ya, Lex?"

Me: (Dalam hati mikir, eh bumbu nasi goreng apa ya, yang instan ada, kali di kulkas.) "Iya, apa sih yang enggak buat kamu. Sana gih mandi sama ganti baju dulu."

Okay, I gotta tweet this: he loved my nasi goreng made from that bumbu instant Indofood thing ;) Terlalu cinta sama gue, kali ya hahaha.

Geblek! :))) RT @winasoedarjo: Oooo, jadi hari ini roleplay-nya pembantu dan ndoro-nya ya?

27 April 2011

RT @lolitaglamours: Kalian kan berpenghasilan and trust each other. Account bank nggak jadi 1 atau joint account? Gaji Beno nggak dikelola sama lo?

My salary is in my account, his entire income is in the joint account setelah dikurangin uang jajannya dia yang dimasukin ke his account.

He doesn't touch my account karena katanya sejak menikah, I'm entirely his responsibility. Jadi isi joint account-nya ya entirely from him.

Gaji gue buat apa? Buat nabung, sama hura-hura, and buy him stuff. He never shops for clothes by himself, so I'm the one yang ngisi lemari bajunya.

Sometimes when I receive extra income from the office, like annual bonus and such, sebagian gue setor ke joint account without him knowing.

The arrangement is different in every marriage kok. Kebetulan aja Beno punya cukup dan egonya tinggi jadi maunya dia yang nanggung semua.

Finally home.

I'm cooking nasi goreng, and there's butterfly in my stomach as I see Beno reading a book across the kitchen, on the sofa.

You want to know what's on my mind now?

Ben, kalau nanti kamu di New York, yang ngurusin kamu begini siapa? Yang nyiapin baju kamu tiap hari siapa? Yang kamu gulingin kalau tidur siapa?

Crap. Kenapa gue jadi norak mellow begini?

Tadi dia nunjukin flight details-nya ke gue. He's taking off from Cengkareng on Thursday, May 5th at 20.25. Makin sedih kerasa mau pisah beneran.

Sementara cuti gue juga nggak jelas bakalan dikasih apa nggak.

I want New York with you, Ben!

28 April 2011

This whole day fiasco: structuring Adrian's loan. Udah minum aspirin gue pagi-pagi. Didn't sleep until 2 AM last night.

For the past weeks, I've been receiving lots of mentions yang bilang a lot of you fall in love with Beno and want a husband like him.

Sampe ada yang nanya gue: nyari di mana lagi yang kayak gitu? ;)

Mengikuti nasihat si @winasoedarjo dulu, I just wanna say: it's impossible for us to find a perfect spouse if we model him/her...

...toward someone, atau toward our own sets of criteria.

The world just doesn't work that way. We're not God yang bisa bikin orang sempurna, sesuai dengan semua yang kita mau.

But we can try to find someone that just works. That when you and that someone are together, you both just work.

Despite all the hiccups and each other's shortcomings, imperfections, and flaws.

Banyak dari Beno yang mau gue ubah, sama seperti banyak dari gue yang pasti dia juga mau ubah.

Countless. Banyak banget.

Tapi terus, mau nunggu kami bisa mengubah each other dulu according to our ideal mindset baru bisa nerima? Nggak, kan?

Terus, kalau emang kami berdua berubah sesuai yang diinginkan masing-masing, are we still the same person we both fall in love with?

So you know why you get the impression from my tweets that he is somewhat perfect? Because to me, he just works.

He and I work, despite our flaws and fights and all that.

Sure we're making adjustments with each other as we go supaya bisa jalan hubungannya, tapi ada beberapa hal yang left unchanged dan memang harus di-accept aja.

Jadi nasihat gue buat lo semuanya: stop trying to find the perfect spouse according to your own ideal.

Just find someone who just works with you. That's all that matters.

Relationship is work. After we failed the first one, miserably I might add, Beno and I learned this the hard way.

Jadi kalau udah ketemu yang sayang sama lo, lo sayang sama dia, both of you can work things out together, and it feels right (not perfect)... ya udah.

Dulu pernah baca quote ini dan menurut gue nggak banget, tapi ternyata setelah gue alami ternyata beneran.

"You should love someone inspite of, not because of."

Gara-gara diabsen Beno barusan, gue baru sadar kalau belum makan siang because I've been stuck at my desk all day. Delivery it is then.

I BBM him: "Hon, take me out to dinner dong malam ini. Udah lama nggak makan keluar."

Him: ”Kamu mau di mana?” Me: ”Surprise me dong, Hon.” Him: ”Bingung.” Me: ”Come on, Beno Wicaksono, think of something.” Him: ”Iya, iya. Nanti aku telepon ya, Sayang.”

Let’s see where he’ll take me tonight ;)

Ini contoh cara menerima sambil mendidik. He BBM me: ”Lex, kasih tau aja deh kamu mau dinner di mana. Aku ngikut.” Me: ”Nggak mau. You surprise me.”

Absen sore from the busiest surgeon in Jakarta: ”Di mana?” Me: ”Kantor.” Him: ”Nanti aku jemput jam 7. Jangan meeting-meeting, ya.”

Me: ”Dinner-nya jadi kan, Hon?” Him: ”Jadi, makanya nggak usah meeting-meeting.”

Galak.

Can you guess where he’ll take me tonight? Gue aja belum tau. Ini pertama kalinya gue menyerahkan ke dia untuk pick the place.

Asal jangan Nasi Goreng Sabang lagi aja. As historically romantic as the place is for us, nggak kreatif banget kalau ngajaknya ke situ lagi.

20 menit lagi sebelum jam 7 dan gue tiba-tiba dipanggil ke ruangan bos! Cakep!

Going down the elevator to meet the husband yang udah nunggu 15 menit di parkiran. Mudah-mudahan nggak ngambek. Tweet you later, ya.

Sinting kamu, Beno, sintiiiing ;)

I am now... how should I say this... in my birthday suit, in bed, at the suite of the Ritz-Carlton Pacific Place ;)

Beno sinting ini—my God, I love him. His idea of surprising me is renting us a suite here for the night and room service for dinner.

Sorry I doubted you, Hon. You rock tonight!

29 April 2011

Good morning, SCBD.

I wish I didn't have to go to work. Kantornya cuma di seberang jalan tapi males banget. Love the last 12 hours too much.

Already at the office for my 8 o'clock meeting. Males semales-malesnya. Way too tired and worn out, too.

LOL sana gih bilang. I'm really surprised si Beno can pull this off too. RT @winasoedarjo: Gue harus minta diginiin juga sama si Riza. Harus!

Udah dong. Oh well, in his own way. RT @winasoedarjo: Udah bisa ngomong "I love you" juga nggak laki ajaib lo itu? ;)

Hahaha. RT @winasoedarjo: Alhamdulillah akhirnya....

@winasoedarjo Tadi mukanya Beno seneng banget abis gue peluk-peluk dan cium-cium before I left for work. Him: "Seneng nggak surprise-nya?"

@winasoedarjo Seorang Alexandra Wicaksono jawabnya begini: "Nggak cukup ya everything I did last night and this morning untuk nunjukin aku seneng banget?"

@winasoedarjo Si canggung itu senyum salting: "Hehehe. Glad you like the surprise, Lex." Me: "Udah gitu aja?" Him: "Maksudnya?" Me: "Say it dong, Hon."

@winasoedarjo Dan mukanya malu-malu blushing canggung gitu

pas ngomong ini: ”Cinta kamu banget, Alexandra.” I smiled: ”Cinta kamu banget juga, Beno.”

Home. Bubble bath. The cardiothoracic surgeon udah mendarat di tempat tidur watching TV.

Hahahaha! RT @winasoedarjo: *berdoa dalam hati semoga malam ini nggak ada yang tiba-tiba curhat abis berantem lagi*

30 April 2011

Rempong pagi-pagi (the whole day to be exact) karena prosesi pernikahan sepupunya laki gue.

The cardiothoracic surgeon ganteng banget deh hari ini.

We really want to have the weekend to ourselves because this is the last weekend before he’s leaving to New York. Tapi nggak bisa karena ada nikahan ini.

Misi pribadi gue hari ini: looking hot—checked. Trying to have fun—checked. Menghindari the tante(s) yang rese—in progress.

Sometimes I wonder kenapa acara kawinan adat di Indonesia harus serempong dan sepanjang ini.

Aw, shit. I almost lost my patience with the tante(s) just now. My God, help me.

The tantes saw us talking and dengan ”ramah”-nya came up to us to say hi.

Their idea of saying hi, is this: ”Beno denger-denger udah mau berangkat ke New York ya minggu depan? Alexandra ditinggal sendiri dong.”

Beno dengan sabarnya senyum dan jawab: ”Iya, Tante.” The tante: ”Kok nggak dibawa? Sepi dong sendirian.”

Me: (Trying to be patient and all smiles) ”Belum bisa cuti, Tante, tapi nanti nyusul kok.” Her: ”Repot ya kalau jadi wanita karier begini. Jadinya nggak gampang kalau mau ikut suami ke mana aja.”

Dalam hati gue gondok, what the hell was she trying to say? Luckily, Beno knew I was pissed. So you know what he did?

He put his left hand behind my back and started rubbing my back gently.

Then the tante said: ”Coba kalau udah punya anak. Pasti nggak sepi ya, Alexandra?”

Goddamnit! Sumpah gue panas sepanas-panasnya.

Beno noticed gue mulai emosi banget, so he moved his hand from my back and held my hand and squeezed it a little.

Then he said to the tante: ”Tante Sari ini nanya-nanya anak mulu. Aku dan Alexandra kan masih mau pacaran dulu.”

He was smiling dan sabar banget pas ngomong ini, I was actually kind of surprised karena biasanya dia nggak akan ngomong sefrontal ini.

The tante(s) diem agak kaget. Then Beno said: ”Tante, aku bawa Alexandra dulu, ya. Ada yang mau kami urus. Salam sama Oom, ya.”

Beno lalu narik tangan gue bawa gue ke ibunya yang sedang duduk di seberang ruangan. Eh ini mau ngapain?

You know what he did? Dia pamit ke ibunya untuk cabut dari acara, ngasih alasan bahwa kami tiba-tiba ada panggilan ke kedutaan and some visa mixed-up.

Basa-basi bentar, lalu dia ngajak gue ke mobil. Me: ”Hon, mau ke mana?” Him: ”Pulang.” Me: ”Ini serius? Nggak apa-apa kita pergi begini? Kamu bohong lho tadi.”

Him: ”Udah, nggak apa-apa. Aku males denger-denger kayak begitu tadi. Kita pulang aja istirahat, ya.”

Me: ”Tapi aku nggak enak, Ben. Emang sih tadi aku yang pengen kita di rumah aja, tapi kan nggak enak.” Him: ”Nggak apa-apa, Sayang. Kan nanti malam kita ke resepsi. Udah, tenang aja.”

Am I the only one who feels miserable during family events because I'm sick and tired of people asking when I'm gonna get knocked up?

Rain. In bed with him. Dia udah nyenyak tidur siang, gue masih dengan mata terbuka lebar, thinking about us.

I think, I think too much lately.

I decided to get up from bed, mengeluarkan koper, and started folding his clothes lalu masuk-masukin ke koper buat dia bawa Kamis nanti.

In our bedroom with no sound but the rain smashing against the window and his soft snore.

Damn, feeling like a whimp right now for wallowing over not seeing this nyebelin guy for 6 weeks. Harusnya 6 weeks itu nggak lama, kan?

6 weeks of not seeing this face, not listening to his whining, not enduring his very tight hug when we sleep, not having to deal with his mood swings...

Time for the wedding reception.

Beno kept glancing at me as he drove to the reception and I sat next to him on the passenger seat.

By the fifth glance, I asked him: ”Kenapa, Honey?” Him: ”Nggak.” Me: ”You keep glancing at me. Aku salah dandan, ya?”

Him: ”Nggak, Sayang.” Me: ”Jadi kenapa? Ada yang miring, ya?”

He’s clearing his throat, kayak grogi gitu, then he said dengan canggung: ”Kamu cantik banget kalau lagi pake kebaya, Sayang.”

I smiled, ran my fingers down his arms, and decided to say something to make him more nervous.

Me: ”Tau nggak?” Him: ”Apa, Lex?” Me: ”Aku pake kebaya dan dandan ini buat kamu lho, Honey, bukan buat pestanya.”

He smiled.

And you ask me why I fell in love with this guy? His canggung way of adoring me is so adorable.

Just got home, the 1st thing that Beno said when I walked to the bedroom is: ”Lex, nggak usah buka kebaya dulu, ya.”

I grinned and said: ”Injih, Ndoro.” Mukanya langsung mutung: ”Kan aku udah bilang nggak suka.” I laughed: ”Iya, Honey. Iyaaa.”

1 Mei 2011

The husband’s question at breakfast: ”Cutinya udah dapat, Lex?”

Bikin pengen nelan laptop pas mau jawab.

Earlier after breakfast, I finished packing for him and explained where I put which.

That’s when he said this, dengan suara memelasnya itu: ”Lex,

nggak bisa ya kamu ikut di-packing masuk koper aja biar aku nggak pusing? Ribet, Lex."

Damn, my helpless hopeless husband, aku yang pusing sekarang mau melepas kamu pergi sendiri begini, Hon.

Going for my bubble bath now.

He's taking me out to dinner to Cork & Screw Kodel. Ini dulu tempat rutin dating kami waktu masih pacaran. We both love the atmosphere.

At Cork & Screw now. Gantengnya laki gue ini.

Guess what? We just met Adrian dan ceweknya.

Beno langsung dengan posesifnya merangkul pinggang gue. I always love it when he does this "she's-mine" gesture.

Kami ngobrol basa-basi bentar, then Adrian and his girlfriend walked away to their table. Abis itu langsung dong laki gue ini ngomel-ngomel.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Ngomel-ngomel kenapa?

@winasoedarjo Biasa, Win. "Si Adrian itu masih sering nelepon-nelepon kamu? Kamu masih ramah-ramah sama dia?" blablablabla. Nasabah kok dicemburuin.

Gue cium aja supaya diem: "Udah ya, Hon. Katanya hari ini mau nurut sama aku."

Mukanya langsung grogi canggung gitu abis gue cium. He cleared his throat nggak berani liat mata gue: "Eh, Lex, mesen french fries yuk."

Gue ketawa dalam hati. Canggung canggung adorable-nya ini yang seksi banget buat gue.

2 Mei 2011

Crap. Kamis itu udah dekat banget, ya?

He'll be flying to Singapore on Thursday night at 20.25 with SQ, transit there for an hour, then continue to Frankfurt, which will take 12 hours.

Two hours transit in Frankfurt, then on board the next flight to New York JFK, which will take about 8 hours and 30 minutes.

In total, sama transit-transitnya, it'll take him 26 hours from Jakarta to New York. So he'll be arriving in New York on Saturday morning.

Pengen ikut!

This guy di sebelah gue ini sadar nggak sih gue mati-matian lembur mampus, sampe di rumah pun kerja, biar bisa cuti mengikuti keinginannya?

Secara dia cuma diem aja anteng nonton TV.

I am so fucking tired right now.

And I'm suddenly starving. Nggak bener ini kelaperan jam segini.

Eating alone in the pantry now. Sambil ingin menangisi nasib. Nasib lembur tae ini. Dan bakal ditinggal suami. Ih nggak penting gue emang.

Hahaha, kampret lo emang, setan! RT @winasoedarjo: Sometimes alcohol is the answer, Lexy ;)

Eh dosa deh gue udah nyolot di Twitter. He just came over and sitting next to me in this pantry.

Him: "Kamu baru makan?" Me: "Iya." Him: "Aku kirain udah." Me: "Nggak, tadi aku lagi nggak selera. Sekarang tiba-tiba laper banget."

Dia cuma diem ngeliatin gue makan, sitting next to me.

Then I felt his right hand started rubbing my back gently.

Him: ”Kamu capek banget, ya? Muka kamu kuyu gitu, Sayang.” Me: (Dalam hati: ke mana aja lo?!) ”Iya, Hon, nggak beres-beres nih kerjaan.”

But you know why I can’t be mad with this rewel, insensitive guy? Because sometimes he does these little sweet gestures that I adore.

Tonight, just now, dia deketin kursinya ke gue then he started kissing my hair and my cheek whilst saying: ”Lex, thanks ya...

... udah mau kerja keras kayak begini supaya kamu bisa cuti ikut aku, Sayang.”

Dalam hati gue: oh sadar ternyata. Then he said: ”Maaf ya, Sayang. Gara-gara aku kamu jadi capek banget begini.”

Gue diem aja. Him: ”Aku tau aku agak-agak keras maksa kamu harus cuti ikut aku. Tapi aku beneran nggak bisa kalau kamu nggak ikut, Yang. Jadi maaf kalau maksa, ya.

...kamu bete ya?” I shook my head and smiled: ”Nggak. Udah, nggak apa-apa. Don’t worry about it ya, aku cuma lagi capek banget aja.”

Sumpah gue capek banget. Capek fisik dan pikiran. Capek hati. Merasakan buat dua orang itu exhausting.

Him: ”Abis makan ini, mau aku pijet dan peluk-peluk sampe kamu ketiduran?”

Yeah, a little TDA from me there. Twitter Display of Affection ;)

I nodded. So here we are in bed now, he’s doing what he promised me. I’m too tired and sleepy.

3 Mei 2011

Time to work my ass off biar pre-loan committee meeting-nya bisa dimajukan besok supaya Kamis bisa cuti sesuai permintaan Ndoro.

Fuck today.

Bukan. Si Beno. 10 minutes huge fight with him over the phone just now. RT @winasoedarjo: Shitty day at work? Lo udah butuh cuti kayaknya.

Nanti deh gue jelasin. I can't take this anymore, Win. Capek gue sama dia. RT @winasoedarjo: Eh kenapa lagi?

Di mobil, gue suruh si Ahmed untuk muter-muter nggak jelas. Nggak kuat gue, so not ready to go home and see Beno right now. RT @winasoedarjo: Don't say that. Di mana lo?

@winasoedarjo Just got home. I went straight to the bedroom and to the bathroom. Strip down and soak myself with a bubble bath. I need to cool down.

Iya, lagi nonton TV di ruang tengah. Tadi pas gue nyampe sih dia ngeliatin, gue males ngomong dan langsung ke kamar aja. RT @winasoedarjo: Dia udah nyampe rumah juga?

The argument on the phone tadi awalnya dia nagging me again about mau jam berapa gue pulang kantor. RT @winasoedarjo: Aduh, Lexy, berantem kenapa lagi kali ini, Darl?

@winasoedarjo Then he went on saying that he has made as much time as he could to be with me before he leaves.

@winasoedarjo He said that I wasn't making the effort, that I chose to get myself caught with work instead of spending time with him.

@winasoedarjo I was like... what the hell?! So I said: "Ya ampun, Ben. Aku juga mati-matian ngerjain ini buat kamu juga. So I can be with you in New York."

@winasoedarjo Then we said some mean things to each other. How he doesn't understand me and how I don't understand him.

@winasoedarjo In the end I said that I just can't do this with him anymore.

@winasoedarjo Me: "Aku udah nggak kuat lagi, Ben, kalau kamu begini terus." Him: "Maksud kamu apa?"

@winasoedarjo And then I said this. I don't know if I'm going to regret this later but I have said this and there's no turning back.

@winasoedarjo I said: "Ben, maybe it's good for us that you're going away for 6 weeks. Maybe we do need to take a break from each other."

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Eeeeh, Lexy! Kok jadi gini? Lo sabar aja dulu, don't say things you're gonna regret later.

@winasoedarjo Capek gue, Win, capeeek. Akhirnya gue bilang aja, "I can't talk to you anymore." Biar dia mikir dulu.

@winasoedarjo He hung up. That was the last things we said to each other.

Iya nanti gue telepon lo deh. RT @winasoedarjo: Aduh, Darling, elo berdua itu ada-ada aja deh masalahnya. Gue masih di jalan nih, nanti telepon gue ya.

@winasoedarjo I'm in my bubble bath now. Crying. This is the last thing I need right now. Not two days before he leaves.

@winasoedarjo This is scaring the shit out of me. We are repeating the same circle in our relationship as we did in our first marriage.

I'm scared, Ben.

This is not me bailing, Ben. This is me being scared.

I can't stand you. I love you but I don't think I can stand you anymore.

4 Mei 2011

A little over midnight, woke up in the middle of the night to the doctor sleeping next to me.

I turned to my right, and there's his face, his peaceful, sleeping-like-a-baby face. The face of a man I love like hell.

The face, the eyes yang tadi menatap gue tajam begitu gue keluar dari kamar mandi. And the body that hugged me so tight two seconds later.

Nggak apa-apa. Kok lo masih bangun udah jam setengah satu begini? RT @winasoedarjo: Is everything okay, Darl? Udah baikan?

Sort of. RT @winasoedarjo: Anak gue dari tadi loncat-loncat mulu jam segini baru tidur. Did you talk things over with him yet?

@winasoedarjo Tadi, begitu gue keluar dari kamar mandi, dia udah berdiri di depan pintu dan langsung meluk gue kenceng banget.

@winasoedarjo Then he said gently: ”Lex, dulu kamu pernah minta aku janji bahwa aku nggak akan melepaskan kamu apa pun yang kamu bilang atau minta ke aku.

@winasoedarjo ...so this is me not letting you bail, Sayang. This is me not letting you go. Okay?”

Toyor!!! RT @winasoedarjo: Gue tahu lo bakal noyor gue lagi kalau gue ngomong ini, but I just gotta say: I love your style, Beno Wicaksono! LOL!

@winasoedarjo When he said that, I just bursted into tears. So we stood there, lama banget, he's in silence hugging me and I cried on his chest.

I know, Win. RT @winasoedarjo: Darl, gue nggak ngerti deh apa memang lo dan Beno itu hubungannya gini, berantem-baikan-berantem-baikan terus. Tapi tetap sabar ya. What matters is that he loves you.

I know. RT @winasoedarjo: I'm an outsider, I'm not in your relationship, and I can feel that he loves you. He might not always know how to show it, but I know he does.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw I just wanna say, sometimes in a relationship, we have to stop paying too much attention to details and just rely on the big picture.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw And in your case, the big picture is that he loves you.

What matters is that he loves me. No matter how dysfunctional this relationship is.

1 AM, wide awake, naked, and this guy, this guy that messed with my head so much is sleeping next to me.

And as I turned to face him, who's asleep, looked into his peaceful face, the face I'm going to miss like hell, I whispered this.

"Thank you for not letting go, Ben..."

Why the hell am I tweeting at this hour? Need to sleep.

I made him breakfast and he drove me to work.

Berhasil merayu the boss to move the pre-loan committee meeting to now, and to give me one-day leave tomorrow. One less headache solved.

I've got a good news and a bad news. Which one do you want to hear first?

Bad news: hasil meeting-nya akan screw up my life gara-gara ngurusin account si Adrian ini for many weeks to come. Nggak tau bisa cuti apa nggak. Shit.

Good news-nya: I can go home now that the meeting is done. Gonna stop by at Pacific Place first to buy the Surgeon's favorite dessert.

As for urusan nanti bisa cuti apa nggak, I'm trying to think in short time period right now. I'm tired of worrying too much.

Home. The Mbok has prepared dinner. Dessert ready. The busy surgeon is on the way home.

As soon as he got home, gonna send Mbok to stay at my parents' house for the night so we can have the apartment to ourselves.

I am going to miss this. Him. Us.

5 Mei 2011

Our 2 AM very early breakfast with mi instan because he said: "Kok jadi laper, Yang." He smiled, I smiled, and we talked and we laughed. Priceless.

Last night, well early this morning after we had that 2 AM breakfast, he gave me a Cartier box. Inside was a watch.

And he said: "Dual time zone, Sayang. Biar kamu inget terus jam berapa juga di New York."

Today's itinerary: untweetable stuff until 6 PM, then take him to the airport.

Off to the airport.

Oh fuck, I hate this.

Already in the car. Ahmed is driving me home from the airport. Shit. Who am I kidding? Home is that guy I just left at the airport.

He's taking off at 20.25 and I feel like shit right now.

These last 2 days with him have been everything that we've ever been. Our quiet, calm, wild, fast, slow, crazy, sane, insane, cold, and hot self.

He called me just now that he's already on the plane. And his last words for me is...

"Cinta kamu banget, Sayang. Guling aku cepet nyusul, ya."

Fucking silent tears in the car right now.

Anyway, I left a little surprise inside his luggage. Can't wait to hear his reaction when he finds it ;)

6 Mei 2011

I'm still wide awake.

You know how I always said that him treating me as a human bolster is berat dan bikin paha gue mati rasa? Tonight I can't sleep without it.

What he does to me every night is what I could call weighted warmth. Ada blog Nick Miller yang cerita tentang ini.

There's warmth, you know the kind of warm feeling you get by snuggling inside a thick blanket near a fireplace.

But weighted warmth is the warm feeling that comes from the body temperature of somebody else who's holding you tight.

His body temperature and his weight as he holds me. This cannot be replaced even by wearing a thick, heavy blanket.

Morning routine without having to cook his omelette and arrange his clothes to wear of the day. Waktu jadi lebih lega now but I miss doing it.

My breakfast: wholewheat toast, sliced banana, and three kinds of vitamin.

Our arrangement for the 6 weeks apart: BBM absen, morning phone calls from each time zone, and video calls whenever he's available.

Can you guess how I had my lunch?

I had my lunch inside my office, door closed, delivery menu, put him on speakerphone, while he's having breakfast in Frankfurt.

We talked while we're eating for an hour. Our first across-hemisphere date. Ini phone bill bakal mahal mampus but we don't care.

I asked him to BBM me his picture. Aduh kasian ngeliat mukanya capek with dark circles around his eyes, kucel. I said: "Kamu nggak tidur di pesawat?"

He said: "Nggak bisa tidur." Me: "Udah pake iPod? Kan udah aku masukin ke saku jaket kamu." Him: "Udah, aku udah merem tapi nggak bisa-bisa tidur."

Me: "Kenapa? Pake sleeping pill aja deh, muka kamu kuyu banget gitu." Him: "Nggak ada yang digulingin." Me: "Beno, udah deh. Jangan kemanjaan gitu deh, Hon."

Sometimes I wonder, kok bisa ya dia multiple personality gini. Di luar serius, dingin, tegas, walau sama pasien tetep ramah.

Can’t wait to hear what he’s going to say when he opens his luggage.

3-in-1 is finito. Let’s beat this Friday traffic and head home.

My baby has just landed. He sounded tired when he said: ”Pegel banget, Lex. Nanti aku telepon lagi kalau udah di hotel, ya.”

Just got off the phone with hubby. An hour of another ”bikin kaya perusahaan telco” before I told him to sleep to kill the jetlag.

Me: ”Udah di hotel, Hon?” Him: ”Udah. Sayang, kamu sinting ya?” Me: (Grinning, since I knew what he meant) ”Kok sinting sih?”

Him: ”Alexandra, nakal ya.” Me: ”Tapi suka nggak?” Him: ”Suka. Tapi kamu tega ya, Yang. Yang begini kan bikin aku makin nggak tahan pisah sama kamu.”

And I smiled. Mission accomplished.

7 Mei 2011

We’re Skype-ing now. I’m having breakfast in front of my laptop while he ordered room service and now having dinner in his hotel room.

In case you’re wondering what I put inside his luggage, sebenernya biasa banget kok. But I know that’s his weak point ;)

When I packed his luggage, inside I put the slutty nurse lingerie + my pictures wearing it with a note: ”Should you miss me.”

Dia juga nggak polos-polos amat, kali LOL RT @winasoedarjo: Ckckck, punya laki polos nerdish gitu dikasih gitu nanti dia gemeter, Lex *ngikik*

Video call itu justru bikin makin kangen, ya? Shit.

Pengen banget nyusul kamu sekarang, Ben. Pengen banget. Tapi aku belum bisa.

Sleepiness is always the aftermath of every spa session.

The Surgeon's morning (his time zone) absen while I'm having lunch with Wina.

Wina langsung senyum-senyum after I hung up the phone: "Kenapa? Mau pulang?" Me: "Yang di New York ngajak pacaran pake Skype, Win. Gue pulang ya?"

Wina: "Heran gue. Kok bisa ya dia cinta mampus sama lo gitu? Kalau gue jadi dia, mending gue berkeliaran di Time Square. Me: "Setan!"

Bought a couple books in Aksara then headed home.

Quiet Saturday night at home. Me having dinner prepared by Mbok while Beno is having breakfast in his hotel room.

And Skype is the savior of our relationship right now.

8 Mei 2011

Ini masih hari kedua, ya. Masih ada 40 more days like it.

It's Sunday but here I am, home alone, working. Some life, huh?

Sunday morning in New York, Sunday sunset in Jakarta. My baby just woke up, came over to the Skype webcam, ngucek-ngucek mata and said to me...

Him: "Lex, pengen sarapan kamu..."

Manjanya kamu ya, Ben. Gimana aku bisa tenang di sini ngejar kerjaan ini kalau kamu begini terus?

I'm fucking miss you, Hon. I miss fucking you.

Eh ke-tweet ya? Shit! RT @winasoedarjo: Alexandra Wicaksono!!! Read your last tweet! LOL.

9 Mei 2011

Gue baru sadar gue udah telat 5 hari. Aduh.

Belum. RT @winasoedarjo: Udah testpack?

@winasoedarjo Gonna sneak to get a testpack during lunch. Kalau hamil nggak bakalan boleh take long flights soalnya. Berarti nggak bisa ke New York.

I BBM the Heart Surgeon: "Hon, baru sadar aku telat 5 hari."

My mobile rang just 5 seconds after that. From him. I rejected the call and BBM him: "Hon, jangan telepon sekarang, lagi meeting. BBM aja ya."

Him: "Udah pake testpack?" Me: "Belum, ntar pas lunch." Him: "Kita pernah nggak pake, ya?" Me: "Pernah kali, yang di Kebagusan. Hon, kalau + gimana?"

Him: "Test dulu aja ya, Lex. Nanti kita bicarain abis itu di telepon, nggak enak bahasnya pakai BBM. Kabarin kalau udah, ya."

I just called Beno: "Hon, nggak jadi. False alarm." Him: "Maksudnya?" Me: "Aku barusan dapet, telat doang ternyata, karena capek, kali."

Dan akhirnya gue pun diceramahin panjang-lebar oleh laki gue ini tentang jangan kecapekan, jangan stres, blablablabla.

In the end of the phone call, I asked: "Hon, aku boleh nanya sesuatu?" Him: "Apa, Lex? Me: "Kamu kecewa aku ternyata nggak hamil?"

Him: "Lex, kita kan udah sepakat untuk menunda. Tapi kalau dalam penundaan itu ternyata udah dikasih sama Allah, pasti kita syukuri, kan? Tapi kalau ternyata belum juga nggak apa-apa. Jadi nggak usah dipikirin, ya."

Masalah yang "what if Beno is not the Beno that I'm married to now" itu gue jawab sekarang deh.

When I first met him, some 6 years ago, gue udah settle di pekerjaan gue dengan penghasilan yang cukup, and even my own place to live.

So naturally, for me (buat tiap orang pasti beda-beda), I would expect calon suami gue untuk juga punya pekerjaan yang baik dan penghasilan yang cukup.

Definisi pekerjaan yang baik buat gue: apa aja asal halal. Penghasilan yang cukup: minimal se-gue at that time.

Again, buat orang pasti beda-beda. Tapi gue merasa kalau penghasilan laki gue di bawah gue, itu bisa jadi potensi konflik dalam hubungan.

I rarely know Indonesian men who can dengan kepala tegak dan tanpa mengungkit-ungkit bisa menerima bininya makes more money then them.

So to be on the safe side, ya udah gue juga nyari calon suami yang minimal sama se-gue deh.

With this income, dia udah bisa menafkahi dengan cukup, hidup nggak pusing paycheck-to-paycheck, dan bisa nabung.

As for Beno, it's not the money that makes me fall in love with him. Sure, most women pengen punya suami yang bisa beliin macem-macem.

Tapi kalau suami yang bisa beliin macem-macem itu lantas nggak setia, kasar, nggak mengerti kita, apakah kita masih mau? Nggak, kan.

Yang membuat gue jatuh cinta sama dia adalah he's someone who has a passion in his life and pursues it with all his heart.

He believes in something and he fights for it. It = cintanya buat dunia kedokteran.

Gue paling males sama laki-laki yang nggak punya cita-cita dan nggak punya passion dalam hidupnya.

Terus dia juga baik, nggak macem-macem, jujur, nggak sombong walaupun dia sukses, dan dia sayang sama gue. What more could I ask for?

Sure, gue suka sebel dengan controlling-nya dia, his inability buat manis-manis dan basa-basi, his mood swings.

But I love him inspite of those things.

Jadi bukan karena dia bisa beliin gue macem-macem. This is a bonus.

I'll tweet you later ya yang lainnya. Yang di New York udah berisik BBM minta nyalain Skype. Walking into my office now.

Kelucuan kami malam ini (morning at his time): dia minta gue milihin mau pake apa on his 1st day.

Gantengnya laki gue ini. Dark brown suit, white shirt, and black overcoat. Pengen dipeluk.

Just blew him a kiss and he's off to the hospital.

Mixed feelings. RT @bonangfjusri: Mbak sendiri seneng atau sedih karena ternyata nggak jadi hamil?

Kalau ternyata gue hamil, first reaction: kaget, karena we're not prepared for this. We're nowhere near ready.

Then again, setelah kaget, pasti gue seneng. After all, it is the fruit of our love. Dipercaya sama Tuhan untuk punya anak itu luar biasa.

Then, tadi for a moment, gue sempet bayangin kalau the baby is a boy looks like bapaknya, lucu banget pasti. There's a little sadness when I got my period.

We're now giving ourselves 3 years to learn to be a functional adult and a committed married couple, so then we can be prepared parents.

Home. Love the non-traffic tonight. Bubble bath it is.

11 Mei 2011

Not a good day. Shit.

Kalau ada yang baca tweet ini dan mau nelepon kantor gue pura-pura ancaman bom gitu, biar kantor bubar, monggo lho.

Bapak Adrian yang terhormat, what makes you think that it's okay to BBM me at this hour? Jam 11 malem, Pak.

Dia lagi di London, nanya masalah bisnis, lupa katanya di Indonesia udah jam 11. RT @winasoedarjo: Ngapain dia BBM lo jam 11 malam? Ketauan si Beno bisa disilet-silet pakai pisau bedah tuh orang.

Makanya nggak gue jabanin. RT @winasoedarjo: Ppppfffttt... alesan banget.

12 Mei 2011

And Adrian BBM to call me again this morning. I said yes. He called me for 15 minutes just now.

Ngobrolin bisnisnya 5 menit doang, sisanya sweet-talk basa-basi nggak penting. Masih aja usaha ini orang.

Busting my ass working on this loan proposal presentation to direksi tomorrow. Doain gue ya, kalau di-approve baru bisa cuti.

Oke, gue udah mulai gila. Time to go home and just work on this presentation at the comfort of my own bedroom. Siapa yang mau jadi 3-in-1 gue?

Dan di tengah kemacetan ini Bapak Adrian menelepon lagi.

Dia mau ngobrol ramah-ramah, basa-basi, cerita-cerita tentang bisnisnya, tentang London, whatever ya gue jabanin aja asal jangan sexual innuendos.

Pengen gigit laptop. Gue stres!

13 Mei 2011

Cuti disetujui. I love you, boss.

12 days!

Gonna fly to New York next Thursday night. Can't wait! And can't wait to tell the Surgeon on our 5.30 PM Jakarta time Skype date.

Wanti-wanti Beno tadi: "Nggak boleh naik ekonomi ya, Lex. Itu long flight, nanti kamu kecapekan. Aku udah bilang sama Santy untuk cariin flight."

Gue sih nurut aja sama Ndoro ya. Yang bayar kan dia hehehe.

Santy, Beno's secretary just called me. The flights are booked. Flying Thursday night, arriving in New York on Friday night.

New York, here I come! Eh, maksudnya Beno, here I come! *masa lebih excited ketemu NY-nya daripada ketemu laki gue, LOL*

14 Mei 2011

A total of 10 days without a single fight. A brand new record for us.

I guess Wina is kinda right, some couples memang lebih akur kalau jauh-jauhan daripada deket-deketan.

But if you ask me, gue mending berantem tiap hari deh daripada jauh-jauhan. LDR is shit!

He just freaked out when I said this as he came out of the bathroom abis mandi: "Hon, kayaknya kamu agak buncit ya sekarang?"

Him: (Sambil megang perutnya) "Nggak ah, masa sih? Nggak buncit kok. Nggak buncit, kan? Serius? Nggak buncit, Lex."

Me: "Makan apa aja sih? Buncit tau. Gembul sih kamu kalau nggak ada yang ngelarang-larang."

Dengan muka stres dia berdiri di depan cermin sambil ngelus-ngelus perutnya, narik napas, nahan napas. Him: "Nggak buncit, Alexandra. Kamu ngada-ada deh."

I laughed. I know ketakutan terbesarnya adalah jadi buncit.

And he's gonna kill me if he knows I'm tweeting this LOL.

I just asked him sebenernya fellowship-nya dia itu apa. He's been explaining for the last 10 minutes and I don't understand a single thing.

I guess love is listening to your spouse talking eventhough you don't understand what the hell he is saying.

Just like if you fall in love with a hot Italian guy eventhough you don't speak Italian.

Hahahahaha! RT @winasoedarjo: Ih gue banget itu. Dulu. *jangan lapor Riza*

15 Mei 2011

9:26 AM in New York, Skype date. My big baby is lounging in bed, baca patient's case file dengan muka seriusnya yang seksi itu sambil sesekali ngobrol ke gue.

And as I'm looking at him, I said dalam hati: Ganteng, semoga rezeki kamu lancar terus ya biar nggak pusing punya istri kayak aku ya, Honey. Amin.

17 Mei 2011

Skype date since subuh New York time.

Ini lucu deh. Kenapa gue tiba-tiba deg-degan gini ya mau ketemu dia lagi Jumat nanti? Butterflies in my stomach!

1 AM New York time. Beno akhirnya ketiduran di tempat tidur dengan mulut mangap. You're so weirdly sexy, Hon.

Turning 31 this Sunday, however, is depressing. Damn, I'm old!

My 30th birthday was marked with Denny's sister saying: "Bisa nggak sih si Denny nyarinya yang bukan janda aja?"

I hope my 31st will be marked with people saying nicer things to me.

I just received a BBM from the Heart Surgeon yang bikin kaget setengah mampus!

Him: ”Buat ulang tahun nanti mau minta apa dari aku, Lex?”

Miracle does exist! *twit bini yang lakinya selalu lupa ulang tahunnya*

Me: (kaget) ”Tumben inget.”

Him: ”Alexandra, kita di New York bareng cuma 2 minggu. Kalau gara-gara nggak inget ultah kamu terus kamu ngambek 2 minggu aku dicuekin kan nggak lucu.

...jadi aku udah bikin reminder di BB. Maklum, Lex. Suami kamu kan udah tua.” Me: ”Hehehe, kok jadi ngomongin umur, Ganteng? Kamu nggak tua kok, Hon.”

Lately, he’s been kind of sensitive about his age. I don’t know why he should. 39 is a sexy age.

The men I dated before Beno were about my age or paling 1-2 years older. Sure they’re fun and crazy when it comes to dating...

But never thought of them as husband material, mikirnya party-party dan seneng-seneng mulu.

Kecuali Denny ya. But hey, you know where that went wrong.

Then I met Beno. He was 31-32 when we met. Other men usually sweet-talk nggak penting kayak si Adrian itu when they asked me out.

Before he asked me out, just the two of us, we hung out with Ario (his friend yang ngenalin kami, who happened to be my friend) 4 kali.

Then one day, I think it was a Wednesday, he suddenly called me. Nggak pake sweet-talk sama sekali. I remember every bit of that 1st phone call.

Him: ”Alexandra, ini Beno.” Me: ”Eh, Ben. Pakabar?” Him: ”Biasa. Lo lagi sibuk? Gue ganggu nggak?” Me: ”Nggak, kenapa?” Him: ”Kalau Jumat biasanya lembur nggak?”

Me: ”Tergantung. Tapi biasanya gue males lama-lama di kantor kalau Jumat. Kenapa, Ben?” Him: ”Mau nyoba nasi goreng enak yang kemaren gue ceritain?”

Me: ”Jumat?” Him: ”Iya, gue pulang dari RS-nya nggak malem banget kalau Jumat. Itu kalau lo mau, Lex.” Me: ”Boleh. Sama Ario juga? Mau gimana ketemuannya?”

Him: ”Ario sih udah sering. Gue mau ngajak lo aja. Mau gue jemput atau gimana?” Me: ”Ketemu di sana aja, ya. Gue selalu bawa mobil kok. Ntar telepon aja, Ben.”

So we met there on a Friday night. Yeah our first date (or whatever lah itu namanya) was on that nasi goreng Jalan Sabang itu.

While with other men, ngajaknya pasti niat, paling nggak dinner and a movie di tempat yang nggak perlu kipasan.

Other men usually sibuk cerita tentang dirinya sendiri (”jual potensi”) on a date. Beno itu pendiem banget, jadi dia cuma dengerin gue cerita sambil senyum.

At the end of our 1 hour dinner (lama-lama panas juga), he said dengan senyum canggungnya: ”Eh Lex, sori ya, lo pasti nggak biasa makan di tempat begini?”

I said, smiling: ”Apaan sih. Enak tau.” Him: ”Bener?” Me: ”Iya, enak. Kok bisa tau di sini sih?”

Then he told me kalau dia pulang dari rumah sakit malem banget dan di mana-mana udah tutup, cuma ini yang masih buka. So he frequently ate there.

So 50 menit pertama gue yang sibuk memecah the silence dengan cerita dari gue, baru di ujung-ujung dia mulai banyak omong tentang pekerjaannya.

I never dated a man that much older before, never dated a doctor either, never dated yang diem-diem begini juga. So it was definitely a new thing for me.

But I thought, hey dia temen Ario, dia ganteng (I'm so shallow, I know), cool cool misterius dan diem-diemnya itu bikin penasaran. So I went ahead.

Our second date: nonton *Closer*-nya Julia Roberts. My choice. Our third date: makan di Kemang. Our fourth date: grocery shopping.

FYI, saking pendiem, shy, dan misteriusnya or whatever itu lah ya, nyium pipi pas abis those dates aja nggak.

First kiss? After that fourth date. Dia bantuin gue ngangkat belanjaan to my apartment. It was a relaxed Sunday, so I didn't even dress up.

Dia baru balik dari some seminar in Singapore Saturday night-nya, callled me ngajak lunch on Sunday. I said sekalian gue perlu belanja, he agreed.

So I was just wearing shorts, sandals, and some white shirt, nggak niat pokoknya, secara mau lunch santai dan belanja bulanan ini doang.

Anyway, setelah makan siang dan belanja bulanan itu, we were in my apartement to put all the things on the counter. Gue mulai masuk-masukin ke kulkas dan lain-lain sambil ngobrol.

Selesai, we're still in the kitchen, I looked at him smiling and said: "Beno, makasih banget ya udah nemenin belanja bulanan, jadi nggak repot sendiri."

Exactly then, nggak pake babibu, he leaned over and kissed me. Sumpah gue kaget. I mean, he never showed any romantic gestures before.

Gue mengerti dia seneng kalau lagi sama gue karena udah ngajak jalan beberapa kali, tapi secara cium pipi pendahuluan aja nggak pernah ya, siapa sangka?

Secara gue juga suka (come on, he's hot, dan kekurangannya di diem-diem nggak jelasnya itu justru bikin penasaran) so I gladly returned the kiss.

It lasted like 4-5 seconds, then he looked at me dengan canggung sambil garuk-garuk kepala: "Maaf ya, keterusan."

Gue ketawa dalam hati, lucu banget sih ini orang. I smiled and said: "Nggak apa-apa." Then he said dengan muka lempeng: "Kalau nggak apa-apa berarti kapan-kapan boleh diulangi lagi dong?"

Gimana coba menghadapi laki-laki yang baru mencium lo pertama kali terus ngomong dengan muka lempeng serius gitu? Bukan senyum-senyum menggoda?

So I decided to flirt back while loosening him up by smiling and saying: "Serius banget sih mukanya." Him: "Udah bawaan dari sananya, Lex."

I laughed. He said (tetep dengan muka serius): "Jadi pertanyaanku gimana?" Me: (eh udah pake aku aja) "Pertanyaan apa, Ben?"

Him: "Satu, kapan-kapan boleh nyium lagi apa nggak? Dua, mau apa nggak kalau kamu nggak usah jalan sama orang-orang lain lagi, cuma sama aku aja?"

Serius gue, ngomongnya pake poin-poin satu dan dua gitu dan dengan muka serius. Begini rupanya si Beno ini.

So I played with his polo shirt collar (untung ya, Ben, bini kamu nggak sama kaku dan seriusnya sama kamu jadi that night wasn't that awkward).

And I said: "Nomor satu, boleh (pas gue ngomong ini langsung senyum si kaku ini). Nomor dua, mau asal muka kamu nggak serius kayak guru matematika gini terus."

Wanna know what he did next? He grinned, senyum lebar gitu, and he kissed me again. Lama lagi.

When he finished, I said: "Baru juga dibolehin, udah dilakuin lagi." He smiled: "Kan pokoknya boleh, berarti boleh suka-suka dong kapan aku mau."

So that's the story on our first dates. I think I haven't told you that one yet kan, ya?

Honestly, I love the fact that he's serious dan nggak suka basa-basi. Because then when he says something, he means it.

Udah ah, ngomongin dia terus makes me miss him more. Well, tweet you later. Good night.

19 Mei 2011

Thursday is here! Really couldn't sleep all night.

Hahahaha! RT @winasoedarjo: Cieee, yang mau conjugal visit :)))))

Ahmed is loading the luggages into the car. Rencananya nanti abis dari kantor langsung ke bandara. The flight takes off at 20:25 Jakarta time.

@winasoedarjo Beno's funniest question: "Ehm... Lex, nanya dong, kamu nggak lagi dapet, kan?" Me: "Nggak, kemaren udah." Him: "Alhamdulillah." I laughed.

Iya, Ibu Wina. RT @winasoedarjo: Have a safe flight, darla! Jangan berantem-berantem lagi ya.

Off to the airport now.

Boarding now, tweet you later, ya.

20 Mei 2011

Touchdown Frankfurt. 2 hours layover here then on to New York. To you, ganteng.

It's 6:30 AM in Frankfurt. ...and it's 00:30 AM in New York, gonna call the husband and mess a little bit more with his head now ;)

Calling him with my iPhone, tweeting with my BlackBerry. Suara serak-serak ngelindur ngantuknya pas answering my phone is soooo cute.

Boarding SQ26 to New York now. 8 hours until I can rub Beno's belly again ;) Tweet you later.

Touchdown New York.

2:36 PM in New York. Saking capeknya gue ketiduran di kamar hotel and haven't had my lunch yet.

Beno, tentu saja, masih di rumah sakit.

Belum. RT @winasoedarjo: Jadi belum ketemu?

When I woke up, udah ada belasan BBM dan missed calls dari dia. Sumpah gue tadi nggak denger saking pulesnya ketiduran.

So what did I say to him when I called him back?

"Your wife here just flew 23 hours to see you, Ben." Him: "Iya, Yang. Iya." Me: "So janji pulang jam 7 beneran lho." Him: "Iya."

I think I'm just gonna order room service for lunch then go back to sleep. Jetlag-nya bikin ngantuk-ngantuk lemes gini.

Good morning, Jakarta. It's 7 PM, Friday evening in New York and the husband has been home since 6. Takut dicuekin kayaknya :)

Seeing mukanya yang seneng banget pas tadi gue buka pintu: priceless.

Udah abis gue dipeluk-peluk dan dicium-cium the Heart Surgeon since he arrived. He must have missed me so much. Right back at you, Ganteng :)

And I'm back picking up his clothes yang dilempar begitu aja ke karpet. Nggak berubah juga orang ini ya.

9 PM New York time. Gonna take my bubble bath before bed now.

21 Mei 2011

Bathtub ☑ Shower ☑ Bed ☑

Good morning, New York ;)

We ordered room service for breakfast. He looks so funny eating his scrambled egg kayak buka puasa.

My birthday is tomorrow lho, Ganteng. Udah nyiapin apa buat istrinya ini?

Hahaha, apalagi gue! RT @winasoedarjo: Sumpah gue ikut penasaran si Beno ngasih apa tahun ini, secara udah pake nanya-nanya lo mau apa.

Too tired and worn out to get out of bed. We decided to just stay in and cross things off each other's list.

Yes, he made a list of requests for me to fulfill once we're together in New York, I made a list too.

He's doing the number 1 on my list now: mijetin pegel-pegel gue. When he's not ngomel-ngomel nggak jelas, si ganteng ini is actually kinda sweet.

Kiss kiss, babe! Di sini masih tanggal 21 :) RT @winasoedarjo: My soulmate, happy birthday ya. Wishing you a lifetime of love, luck, and lust ;)

The birthday wishes keep coming in on my BBM from friends in Jakarta, tapi si lempeng yang di sebelah nggak ada tanda-tanda planning something for me.

We're in bed, he's watching TV, I've been busy replying those BBMs, dan dia nggak nanya gue ngapain BB-an. He's just rubbing my head with his left hand.

Ingat apa nggak sih?

Asli, Win, anteng banget orang ini seharian. RT @winasoedarjo: Hahaha, mulai senewen.

Well, what do I expect, dari dulu memang nggak pernah inget. Ingetnya selalu setelah dia ke rumah sakit terus kayaknya Santy, sekretarisnya itu, ngingetin.

Then he would call me at 9ish in the morning dari rumah sakit untuk ngucapin happy birthday. Dalam hati gue: ke mane aje lo dari tadi malem?

Funny how somebody who remembers every inches of human anatomy and all those medical books can't even remember his own wife's birthday.

The husband is taking a shower. He just said: "Laper, Lex. Keluar aja yuk. Wine and dine di mana gitu. Aku mandi dulu, ya."

Ben, Adrian dan Denny aja udah SMS ngucapin happy birthday. *Ngomong sama pintu kamar mandi*

Yang diomongin udah kelar mandi. I need to get dressed. Tweet you later, ya.

I picked him a black suit and a crisp white shirt. He looks hot in it, tapi bagi gue tetep nggak ganteng kalau sampe nanti jam 12 malam lupa ultah gue.

Late night wine and dine at Arabelle, MadisonAvenue. I loooove this place. And no, yang lagi pipis di toilet itu masih belum ganteng juga.

10:46 PM in New York. He has exactly 1 hour and 14 minutes to get his act together sebelum itu list permintaan no. 3 s.d 12 gue coret.

22 Mei 2011

In bed, in my birthday suit, on my birthday, and I just wanna say: Beno honey, you're so fucking awesome tonight. I'd marry you a zillion times!

Thank you for this, handsome. Sorry I doubted you.

The 1st time he remembers my birthday and he totally made up for all those years that he forgot.

Although the Cartier is overwhelming, the things we did in the last 2 hours were crazy, his best birthday present for me is a block of Post-It note.

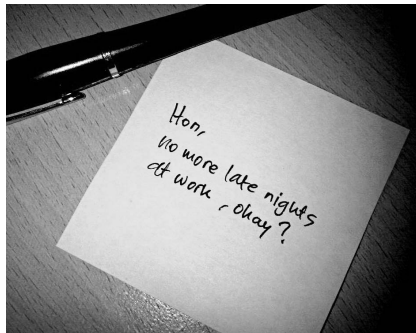
He said: "Kalau kamu mau minta apa-apa atau minta aku ngapain, tulis di 1 Post-It ini for each request, kasih ke aku, and I'll do it with no questions asked."

I just kissed his forehead and whispered to his ear while he's sleeping: ”The Post-It is the most romantic thing you've ever done for me. Thanks, Hon.”

Can you guess what I am going to write on the first Post-It that I'm going to give to him when he wakes up?

The first thing that I realized when I woke up: damn gue udah 31. I'm old!

Beno is still asleep, snoring softly. Just kissed his forehead again. Turning 31 sucks but he made it the best night of my life.

Beno terdiam waktu gue kasih Post-It ini.

He looked me in the eyes and said: ”Kamu bisa minta apa aja dan kamu mintanya ini, Lex? Kenapa?”

I smiled: ”Tadi malam katanya no questions asked.” Him: ”Iya, aku cuma pengen tau aja. Kenapa ini?”

I rubbed his arm and said: ”I asked for what matters the most to me, Ben. And for the last few months, yang kamu baca di Post-It itu yang matters.”

Him: ”Tapi ini susah banget buat aku, Lex. Kamu kan tau aku

sekarang lagi fellowship, dan nanti pulang ke Indonesia juga pasti makin sibuk."

Me: "Beno, Honey, katanya no questions asked. Aku baru minta satu aja udah gitu ngomongnya." Him: "Kamu mintanya yang susah banget, Lex."

Gue diem aja dan menatap dia dengan muka memelas sedih gue that always works itu. Dia akhirnya menghela napas and kissed my forehead: "Ya udah."

Prettt! RT @winasoedarjo: Besok-besok tulis di Post-It-nya "Honey, beliin Prada ya, buat sahabatku yang paling baik sedunia si Wina."

23 Mei 2011

Discovering New York today, dan terdampar bahagia di East Village. The temperature is around, I don't know, 50 to 55 degrees F.

F means Fuck, it's cold! LOL!

Who eats ice cream when it's this cold? Well, apparently, I do!

Nemu Big Gay Ice Cream Shop di East Village, tempatnya kecil, tapi rame banget.

Now having my Salty Pimp ice cream. Serius, ini es krim terenak yang pernah gue makan sepanjang hidup gue!

Salty Pimp itu vanilla ice cream in a cone gitu, yang disuntik caramel, ditaburin sea salt, lantas dicelupin ke dalam cokelat cair. Delish!

Ya ampun, diterjemahin jadi germo asin hahahaha! RT @winasoedarjo: Gue mau ngerasain es krim germo asin itu!!

Spent half of the day going around New York and the rest of the afternoon sleeping. Like a boss.

24 Mei 2011

Another morning routine here in our hotel room in New York. I'm not feeling well today. It looks like I'm coming down with a flu.

Probably all the walking around the city in the cold weather yesterday.

He told me to just stay in bed today. Okay, that's a whole lot of TV, tweeting, and hopefully sleeping.

I just helped the busy surgeon get dressed, buttoned his shirt, he put on his suit, then I ran my hands through his hair, jinjit to kiss him.

This guy is tall!

He smiled, pinched my nose playfully, then left.

I'm in love with New York. I'm in love with us in New York.

25 Mei 2011

Just slipped another Post-It inside his suit pocket. Semoga nurut.

The husband just left for work. Anyway, any of you read @mrshananto tweets about kewajban suami secara finansial tadi?

Intinya, dalam Islam, suami yang wajib memenuhi nafkah kepada istri dan anak, termasuk full secara finansial, istri tidak ada kewajiban sharing harta.

So sebaiknya, sebelum menikah, dipastikan dulu. Calon suami lo itu sanggup nggak menafkahi? Ini bukan matre ya, tapi masalah kewajiban suami.

To put it bluntly: kalau nggak sanggup, kenapa berani-berani melamar? ;)

If you as the wife are willing to share the financial responsibility, it's your choice. He shouldn't have asked you to.

Jadi, pembicaraan tentang uang: aset, income, dan utang masing-masing berapa itu harus terbuka dilakukan sebelum jadi suami-istri.

Dulu, before our first wedding, Beno dan gue duduk bareng di apartemen gue, each of us brought a sheet of paper isinya daftar itu tadi.

The money each of us got saved in the bank (tabungan, deposito, reksadana), the market value of his apartement and my apartement, tanahnya dia...

...the market values of our cars, cicilan apartemen dan mobil gue, cicilan mobil dia. Semuanya.

Then he said: "Lex, ini semua yang aku punya sebelum kita menikah. Terserah kamu kita mau pre-nup atau nggak.

...kalau pake pre-nup, semua yang sebelum kita menikah, yours and mine remain yours and mine. Atau nggak usah dan kita merged aja?"

In the end, kami nggak pake pre-nup, but we each noted down masing-masing bawa aset apa aja ke dalam pernikahan.

About menafkahi, that night we had that talk, Beno langsung ngomong: "Lex, ini aset kamu dan penghasilan kamu disimpan buat kamu aja ya."

Then he said: "Mulai kita menikah nanti, semua kebutuhan keluarga dan kamu, itu kewajiban aku. Everything."

I said bahwa nggak enak juga kalau begitu, secara I felt the need to also contribute to the marriage. Nggak enak serasa numpang hidup doang.

He said: ”Alexandra, secara Islam ini juga kewajiban suami. So please allow me to do so, ya.”

Yang gue respect dari Beno, even when we’re no longer speaking tapi masih menikah, dia masih memenuhi itu dengan tetep transfering the money.

Later after we got married again, gue nanya Beno kenapa dia tetep begitu walau kami ngeliat muka masing-masing pun udah males.

He said: ”Kalau masih jadi suami kan tetap wajib, Lex. Kalau aku nggak memenuhi itu berarti dosa.”

Intinya gue nge-tweet ini supaya lo-lo yang belum menikah ingat untuk bicara terbuka tentang ini sebelum menikah. Jangan mikirin cinta-cintaan aja.

Bertemu dengan suami yang sanggup menafkahi lo itu sama sekali bukan keberuntungan kalau menurut gue. Kan lo punya pilihan mau menikah dengan siapa.

Menurut gue, konsep ”mari kita meniti bareng” a.k.a dia ngajak lo patungan di awal pernikahan itu, kalo gue sih gue nggak mau.

Paling nggak, basic needs seperti uang belanja, kebutuhan sehari-hari, dan the place where you live, dia harus bisa penuhi.

Sebagai istri, kalau suami lo juga bisa memenuhinya pas-pasan aja, dan lo mau menikah sama dia, ya jangan kurang ajar terus shopping-shopping nggak jelas.

Gue nggak bilang bahwa mau meniti bareng dari bawah itu salah lho, kan tiap orang punya pertimbangan masing-masing. Tapi harus jelas dibahas dari awal.

Mau sampai kapan ”meniti bareng-bareng”? Sedangkan jelas-jelas menafkahi itu memang kewajiban suami. Ini menurut gue.

Jadi sebagai perempuan, jangan malu dan sungkan untuk nanya ini ke calon suami lo ya. Kalau dia tersinggung ditanya begitu, berarti belum cukup mature.

New York is healthy for us.

The last few days with him here (and none of those Jakarta's hectic traffic and the family meddling) are actually really nice.

Nggak ada arisan keluarga dan pertanyaan "kapan punya anak", nggak ada bos ngejar-ngejar deadline, nggak ada nasabah komplain, nggak ada lembur yang biasanya jadi sumber berantem.

Last night, Beno told me that he's offered to prolong his fellowship in another specialty for 1 year.

He said: "Aku nggak mau kita hidup terpisah. Jadi terserah kamu ya, Lex. Kalau kamu bisa ikut aku setahun di sini, I'll take that offer."

Then he went on saying: "Nggak usah dijawab sekarang ya, dipikirin aja dulu. Nanti kasih aku jawaban sebelum Senin depan, ya."

Honestly, I think this is going to be the hardest decision I'll ever make in my entire life, and I don't know where to begin.

If I say yes, it'll mean quitting my job and going to live with him here as a housewife. Susah juga cari kerja di sini kali, harus urus work visa dan lain-lain.

If I say no, he won't accept the offer and we'll be back to our daily life in Jakarta. But somehow I feel that's like me crushing his dream.

Well, maybe not really his dream per se since he just found out about the offer here. But still...

26 Mei 2011

We just played ”Seven Minutes in Heaven” then he left for work. Beno oh Beno ;)

I just BBM him this: ”Ganteng, miss you already. Jangan pulang lama-lama dong ntar. I want to take you out to dinner.”

His two-words reply: ”Diusahain ya.”

I want the dinner date to be the time when he explains to me more about what this 1 year fellowship means to him and how much he wants it.

Oh, Beno, how much more expertise do you want in this thing? You’re a damn good cardiothoracic surgeon already.

Soon you’ll be a too damn good in this heart surgery thing and I would rarely see you since you’re needed in the hospital all the time.

Maybe I’ll regret saying this out loud one day, but should I put a halt on my dream because he wants to chase his?

Oh shit. I hope the last tweet didn’t make me sound so egocentric.

My baby has been home since 6 like he said and now we’re off to dinner at the Pembroke Room.

You’re right, Ben. Us living separately shouldn’t even be put on the table as an option. Either I come with you or you don’t go at all.

He said: ”We never lived far away from each other in our 1st marriage and even then we drifted apart. Jadi aku nggak mau hidup pisah, ya.”

Go ahead and rip off this New York T-shirt now, Pak Beno ;)

27 Mei 2011

Friday break of dawn here in New York. Got a whole weekend planned just the two of us starting tonight.

I am so effing sleepy right now, we stayed up and talked until 2 AM last night about his job, mine, our lives, and the choices we have to make.

Nggak jadi, Win. RT @winasoedarjo: Don't tell me you're moving to New York for his fellowship whatever thing itu.

There are a couple of things that we both agreed on last night.

One, he's going to postponed his one year fellowship, so we're not moving to New York.

It's a decision we came to after a long conversation that started with me asking: "Hon, nanti yang 1 tahun itu kamu mau belajar apa?"

Then he told me about this specialty. Too technical for me to tweet. Too technical for me to understand juga sebenernya, hehehe.

He said: "Di Indonesia baru ada 10 orang lho, Lex."

When he said that, the selfish part of me kicked in. Dalam hati gue mikir: nggak gitu aja sekarang udah sibuk banget. Apalagi ntar. Bakal di rumah sakit all the time.

He must have noticed the worried look on my face, because then he said: "Kenapa, Lex? Kamu nggak siap ya meninggalkan semuanya di Jakarta untuk ikut aku?"

I hugged him quick then I looked into his eyes: "Kalau memang ini penting banget buat kamu, aku nggak mungkin halangi kan, Hon?"

..."I know how important is your job for you, Hon, and you're damn good in it. You're so passionate about it, and I can't compete.

...I can't compete with your job, Hon. And I'm scared if I leave mine and just be with you, I'll have nothing when you choose your job over me."

Him: "Alexandra, apaan sih kamu mikirnya begitu? Nggak ada deh kamu takut kalah perhatian sama rumah sakit dan pasien.

...mungkin keliatannya nggak, but you should know that you always have my undivided attention. Nggak pernah nggak.

...tapi kalau kamu memang nggak siap melakukan perubahan sebesar ini, big change-nya di kamu kan, bukan di aku. Ya udah nggak apa-apa."

I rubbed his head and said: "Hon, tapi aku nggak mau kamu mikirnya aku nggak siap karena I love my job more than I love you."

Him: "Alexandra, I know you love me more. Udah deh nggak usah mikir macem-macem, ya."

So that's the first big decision we made.

You can guess the 2nd one from this Post-It I just gave him before he left for work ;)

Which he welcome with a huge smile on his lips and a huge kiss he implanted on mine a second later.

Very very seriously! RT @winasoedarjo: Awww, SERIOUSLY????

I don't know what hit us last night, but suddenly he just looked into my eyes (more than 3 seconds this time), then he just smiled.

I said: "What's with the grin, Hon?" Him: "Nggak apa-apa." Me: "Apa sih?" Him: "Nggak ada apa-apa." Me: "Nggak ada apa-apa tapi kok masih senyum-senyum sendiri. Apa sih?"

Him: "Malam kemarin itu aku tiba-tiba mimpi kamu lagi menyusui bayi masa depan kita dan you look smoking hot, Lex. Smoking hot."

I laughed. One conversation led to another until we both just decided that we're going to go ahead and do this.

Penting banget! *kibas rambut* RT @winasoedarjo: Penting banget ya di-tweet yang "you look smoking hot"-nya itu!

I laughed when Beno kissed my belly and said, "Berenang yang bener ya," after we made love.

28 Mei 2011

Day 8 in New York. Only 9 more days before I have to fly back to Jakarta.

Ini Beno. The future mother of my future children is asleep and she is the most beautiful thing I've ever seen. Besok Alex bisa baca ini, kan?

Just woke up in the middle of the night. The room is dark with New York City lights vaguely peeking from the window.

And I just realized he tweeted something when I was asleep.

The two little sentences that he never said to me directly. Damn, Hon, you just stole my breath away with that one.

Getting back together with you was, is, and will always be the best decision that I've ever made in my entire life, Beno.

The very sentence that I just whispered to his ear just now.

Good morning, New York. What are you having for breakfast this bright, warm morning? Us: each other ;)

He smiled ear-to-ear when I planted a dozen kisses all over his face the minute he woke up, and I said: "Thank you for what you said on Twitter."

Him: "Kamu baca ya?" Me: "Iya. Kok nggak pernah ngomong begitu langsung ke aku sih, Hon?" Him: "Nggak enak, Lex." Me: "Apaan sih kok nggak enak?"

Him: "Nggak berani liat mata kamu dan muka kamu kalau aku abis ngomong begitu. Nanti dibilang norak."

Aw, this guy is fucking adorable! I said: "You're so cute. Nggak norak, Honey. Just say whatever you want to say ya. I want you to, okay?"

We're in the mood for Japanese food so we're trying this restaurant called Natsumi on West 50th St.

We had a little fight tadi over who else but that Adrian guy yang dengan sablengnya tiba-tiba nelepon.

Cemburuannya itu ya, Wina Kinanti Soedarjo, luar biasa! Ampun deh gue. RT @winasoedarjo: Jiah, gue kirain sejak di New York udah aman-aman aja nggak berantem-berantem lagi.

Nih gue ceritain ya. RT @winasoedarjo: Why am I not surprised? LOL. Kenapa lagi si Adrian whatshisface itu?

@winasoedarjo The minute my mobile rang (secara selama di sini jarang banget), Beno asked me who it was. I told him the truth that it's Adrian.

@winasoedarjo Langsung dong dia ngomel-ngomel. I just came up to him and hugged him and kissed him: "Udah ngomelnya?"

@winasoedarjo Lo tau jawabannya? "Belum. Aku nggak suka dia masih telepon-telepon menghubungi kamu di sini. Nggak ada ganti kamu apa di kantor?" Me: "You're so cute when you're jealous."

@winasoedarjo Him: "Alexandra, aku serius. Jangan ditanggapi dengan bercanda gitu dong." Me: "Ih, siapa yang bercanda? Emang you're cute when you're jealous."

@winasoedarjo Him: "Lex, beneran deh ya. Itu orang..." Me: "Sssssh. Udah. Marah-marah itu bikin capek tau, Hon. Mending energinya dipake buat yang lain, ya, Honey?"

Aduh si Adrian ini nyampe Jakarta gue dorong ke got juga.

So new ultimatum from the husband: nomor Jakarta dimatiin completely while I'm here. Using just the New York number now.

What I love about New York: I can kiss him in public as much as I can. And I love the way he blushed everytime after I did it.

You sexy, nerdish, brilliant, handsome, jealous, nagging future daddy of my baby. You.

29 Mei 2011

4.15 AM in New York and we're already in a cab on the way to Brooklyn, Beno's idea.

Ini mau sahur ya? *can't stop yawning*

What are we doing there, you might ask? Going to this breakfast place called Auntie Annie's. Beno said they serve the best cinnamon rolls.

A large part of his childhood was spent in New York because of his dad's job. He said his parents used to take him to Auntie Annie's every weekend.

I always love listening to stories of Beno's childhood. Our long conversation over breakfast this break of dawn in Brooklyn.

Sometimes, most of the times, it's these little moments that matter. When we're just so effortlessly close.

When was the last time you just sat with your significant other and just listened to each other's stories with no pretenses?

We're now in the cab on the way back to Manhattan. I'm leaning my body on his chest while he's half asleep rubbing my arm.

Belon *muka polos* RT @winasoedarjo: Tweet-nya pacaraaan mulu. Oleh-oleh gue udah dibeli belon?"

Buset. Sabar, Nyet. Besok ya pas si Beno di rumah sakit. RT @winasoedarjo: Jadi kapan mau beliin oleh-oleh gue? Mau dijemput nggak lo di bandara?!

Kenapa gue tiba-tiba pengen banget asinan? Get yourself together, Alexandra, nggak ada pasar di sini.

He just woke up and the first thing he said was: "Lex, pegel banget nih punggungnya. Salah tidur kayaknya, pijetin mau ya?"

Jadi mbok-mbok pijet deh gue.

His other idea of dipijet is this: him lying tengkurep on the carpet and he asked me to step on his back.

Monyet nih si Wina. Barusan BBM gue foto asinan di kulkasnya. Setan setan setan!

Date night out at this French restaurant called ”Daniel” in Manhattan.

30 Mei 2011

Today’s schedule: running in the gym to burn the cinnamon rolls crazy calories, then out and about around New York.

I’m addicted to Chipotle! Seriously, rasanya pengen ngasih kredit sama pengusaha yang mau buka franchise-nya Chipotle di Jakarta.

My flight details this coming Saturday. Harga tiketnya bikin pingsan.

Yesterday we did a little hitung-hitungan berapa tabungan dia abis for this New York thing. Hasilnya = a lot. Like A LOT!

No more hura-hura for the next 3 months, at least.

Hahaha bokek beneran ini! RT @winasoedarjo: Pinter banget lo ya, begitu waktunya beli oleh-oleh langsung koar-koar bokek.

Beno just called and asked me to have lunch at the cafeteria of the hospital with him. He said: ”Jadi kamu bisa liat rumah sakitnya sebelum kamu pulang.”

I don’t like hospitals, but it’s where he spends half of his life. And I need—ni nggak penting sebenernya—to see if the female doctors are pretty.

He’s giving me a hard time about Adrian all the time. I need to check whether he has a fanbase at the hospital. Irrational, I know.

Heh! RT @winasoedarjo: Ngeluhnya sih lakinya posesif. Padahal dianya yang iya, pake mau ngecek-ngecek temen kerja lakinya.

I mean, which women wouldn't go chasing a 39 years old handsome, nice, and successful surgeon if they've got the chance? Eventhough he's married.

Most men I know, when they have what he has and are who he is, would be sok ganteng kecentilan ke mana-mana. He doesn't even realize he's all that.

Loooove those little shops on Tribeca. On my back to the hotel now.

Anyway, I love our little lunch date at the hospital.

Beno knows me too well when it comes to my somewhat insane jealousy towards the women he works with at the hospital. So you know what he did?

He introduced me to them, as we're sitting in the cafeteria, because some of them were on the next table.

There's something heartwarming about the way he spoke about me in front of his colleagues. He smiled like he's proud of who I am.

In short: 'My wife, Alexandra, just flew in from Jakarta last week. She's a banker but she's taking a 2 weeks leave just to be with me.'

He blushed as I planted him a long, lingering kiss before I left. We were out of everybody's sight as we're at the sidewalk, yet he still blushed.

It's so cute that he blushes everytime I do this "Michael-Buble's-I-Get-To-Kiss-You-Baby-Just-Because-I-Can" kind of kiss. So damn cute.

31 Mei 2011

Woke up after 3 hours of sleep and I can't go back to sleep. I envy Beno's ability to always sleep like a baby.

And now I'm suddenly wondering if there's already a future baby inside this belly.

I think Beno would make a great dad. He's a spoiled brat himself—well, I'm far from perfect either—but I know he will be a great one.

It's kind of crazy that we just went ahead and decided to try to have a baby all of a sudden. Throwing our 3 years deal out the window.

You know that night when we had the conversation and decided to try? To tell you the truth, it's not because we think we're ready.

It is because we think we're finally at that point in our relationship that we believe everything will be okay.

6 years of knowing this guy, 1 year of dating, 3 years of failed marriage, and 6 months going into our 2nd marriage, and we're finally at that point.

This might sound so dysfunctional of us, but we never believed that everything would be okay before. Never on that 6 year—up until last week.

Some might look at this as us wasting 6 years of our life just to find ourselves together again.

The 6 years that, if just tried harder before, could lead us into already having a settled family, a kid or two, by now.

But that's not how it works. I think it's true that every couple has their own relationship curve, and you can't compare one with the other.

And there are no advice or self-help books that can tell you what kind of relationship that you and your significant other are having right now.

You both just have to figure it out yourselves. And in some cases, that figuring out phase could take years. Like the one Beno and I have.

You just have to figure out what works for both of you to stay and grow together.

In the case of Beno and I, loving each other was not enough. It didn't work out until we figure out that we need each other.

You know, that heartwarming feeling that I need him and he needs me. That heartwarming comfort of knowing that you are needed.

Dan kalau sekarang juga contemplating kenapa nggak dari dulu, nggak dari 6 tahun yang lalu sadar ini... ngapain? You can't change the past.

If anything, mungkin 6 tahun itu memang sesuatu yang harus gue dan dia lalui untuk bisa sampai ke titik sekarang. No shortcut.

Okay, he just woke up. Tweet you later, ya. I hope what I just shared means something to you. Or not. Oh well :)

I was just thinking, the asking-my-parents-for-blessing before he dated me again was kind of sweet, ya.

Really old-fashioned, chivalrous of him.

You know, after we got married, I actually asked why he did that. He didn't have to, but he did, so why.

His answer: "Waktu aku menceraikan kamu, yang aku sakitin bukan cuma kamu, Lex. Tapi juga orangtua kamu. Kamu anak mereka satu-satunya.

...jadi sebelum mendekati kamu lagi, aku perlu minta izin sama mereka dan meyakinkan mereka bahwa maksud dan niatku baik-baik. Cuma itu kok, Lex.”

Say what? RT @winasoedarjo: Come on, Lex, say it with me :)))

Hahahaha, kampret! Gue kirain apa. RT @winasoedarjo: I love your style, Beno Wicaksono!

Don’t feel like doing anything today but pampering myself at the spa.

1 Juni 2011

He’s off to the hospital, I’m off to bed. Still tired and sleepy. Beli jeans lo ntar aja ya, @winasoedarjo.

Ckckck, untung lagi hamil, kalau nggak udah gue kepret RT @winasoedarjo: Nggak jadi jeans. Gue udah mulai buncit nih. Handbag aja ya, Lexy sayang.

Sering, dia put in 1-2 pro bono ops each month. RT @my_maya: Beno pernah nggak operasi orang yang kurang mampu dan digratisin biaya operasinya?

Kalau kata laki gue, he would do any surgery for free just for the fun of operating (he’s a surgical geek/junkie).

Then he said: ”Tapi, Lex, kalau nggak kita duluan yang menghargai skill dan ilmu yang kita punya, gimana orang lain mau menghargai?

...karena itu, kalau punya skill dan ilmu, yang nggak semua orang bisa, harus confident untuk naruh price tag di diri sendiri.”

The pro bono surgery is actually a CSR program at his hospital. Masing-masing dokter wajib 1x sebulan, my husband usually does 1-2.

CSR itu Corporate Social Responsibility, FYI.

You know, maybe those hands should be insured, ya. Because the things he can do with his hands other than surgery... daaamn. #eh

Gelo. Ini ngapain udah hampir 1.000 orang mau follow my boring, insignificant life? Udah ah. Tweet you later. Gonna go out to lunch and shop.

It's Wednesday night, and on Saturday night I'd have to leave with the 9 o'clock flight. We're trying not to mention anything about it.

When I got out of the bathroom, Beno has fallen asleep with his glasses on his nose and the patient case files on his chest.

My hot geek husband, time to call it a night. Almost midnight in New York. Good night to you too, Twitter.

2 Juni 2011

Good morning, New York. This Thursday is quite sunny.

Dreading the fact that I have to fly to Jakarta in 2 days.

Beno is actually the oldest guy I've ever been with, dan sekarang jadi suami pula. My exes were either the same age, 1-2 years older, or younger sekalian.

When I first dated Beno, si Wina kampret itu ngeledekin mulu: "Nyet, tumben maennya sama oom-oom."

I went: "WTF. Dia nggak oom-oom, kali. Kan cakep, dodol! Nggak keliatan tua juga, kan?" Wina: "Tetep aja bo. 8 tahun! Mukanya serius gitu, lagi."

Wina said that so many times that everytime I went out with Beno, I ended up merhatiin mukanya. Iya emang serius sih, hehehe.

He hardly smiles, but when he does whilst avoiding looking directly into my eyes (karena katanya nggak tahan natap lama-lama)... awww, knee-weakening.

The only occasion that he always looks directly into my eyes for more than 3 seconds is whenever we're intensely "doing" it.

Monyeeet! Nggak mau jawab! RT @winasoedarjo: Mukanya serius juga nggak kalau lagi "doing" it?

Shopping: done. Sightseeing: done. MOMA: done. Again, being a housewife who just waits around the husband to get home is boring. Even in New York.

3 Juni 2011

Less than 48 hours I have left in New York.

Ini udah Jumat siang, and my flight is at 9:25 PM on Saturday night. I hate how time flies.

I'm flying home, he stays for another 2 weeks, so we're back with our Skype dates.

No more of him kissing my belly every night before we sleep.

Mengkhawatirkan, Win. Semacam harus disuruh sit up 100 kali sehari nanti pas udah balik ke Jakarta. Makannya gila-gilaan di sini! RT @winasoedarjo: Hahahaha, btw pakabar tuh perut laki lo?

Crap. Enough wallowing for now. Here he is just walking into the restaurant. Tweet you later.

The future father of my future babies—hopefully soon—looking all serious when he walked in then all smiley when he saw me. Priceless.

4 Juni 2011

00:49 AM in New York, Sabtu dini hari. Only 20 hours left.

And I can't sleep.

Ended up staying up all night with this guy, just talking, and now making 2 cups of Popmie for both of us.

6:30 PM in New York. My flight is at 9:25 PM. We're ordering room service for dinner.

He's in the bathroom. Turned on my BB to start calling people in Jakarta. Ahmed will be picking me up. Kasian Wina lagi hamil kalau jemput gue.

At the airport already waiting for take off. Held my tears when Beno hugged me tight and kissed me before I walked into the departure terminal.

The last words he said: "You always have my undivided attention, Alexandra. Always. Jangan pernah meragukan itu, ya."

Inside SQ25. Frankfurt in 8 hours. Tweet you later.

Touchdown Frankfurt. Slept the whole flight from New York to here. Love the husband so much for insisting I fly business class.

1 hour and 20 minutes layover here before the flight to Singapore. The airline people are so nice hooking my laptop with the internet.

It's 5:20 AM in New York. Gonna wake up the Surgeon for my first absen now, and let's see if we can squeeze in a lil' Skyping.

The Skype is on and nggak sampai hati ngeliat mukanya yang capek banget. He said: "Nggak bisa tidur semalaman, Lex. Kamu gimana, enak seat-nya?"

I nodded. Him: ”Bisa tidur, kan?” I nodded again, then I said: ”Kamu kenapa jadi susah tidur gitu?” Him: ”Nggak ada gulingnya.”

Aduh, Ben. How am I supposed to respond to that?

The plane is about to take off again. I just ended the Skype date with him.

His last words: ”Jangan sampe lupa sama suaminya yang sendirian di New York ini ya, Lex. Jaga diri dan jangan lupa absen, ya.”

I'm off to Singapore now. Tweet you later.

6 Juni 2011

Touchdown Jakarta. Quick grab of the luggages, then home. Ahmed, my driver, is already waiting at the arrival gate.

I'm home now, gonna check on the husband. Tweet you later, ya. And please, let there be no Adrian drama tomorrow at the office.

Almost midnight in New York, another one of our Skype date. Beno is in bed with the laptop, so am I here in Jakarta. I miss him like hell.

Wina and her little daughter Tiz are here. Tiz climbed into my lap and hugged me and is sitting on my lap now. Senengnya punya anak, ya.

She's soooooooo cute, cantik banget.

Little Tiz just said: ”Auntie Alex, where's Oom Beno? I miss him.” Dalam hati gue: sama, kiddo.

Wina asked me how Beno and I finally arrived at the decision to waive our 3-year agreement of not having kids yet.

I told her everything, and I said: ”It just seems the right decision to make at this point of our relationship.”

Wina: ”Kasian laki lo, Nyet kalau lama-lama, udah tua gitu. Masa ntar baru punya bayi umur 42, umur 50 anak lo baru 8 tahun. Bapaknya masih bisa ngejar-ngejar nggak?”

Me: ”Eh bibir lo ya. Jangan liat umurnya dong. Dia itu masih sehat walafiat dan keliatan muda, tau. Reseh.” Wina laughed: ”Bercanda, Nyeeet. Emosi banget.”

All of Beno’s friends anaknya udah TK atau SD, except for Ario yang baru nikah a few months ago.

I asked him once kenapa dia nggak menikah dari dulu-dulu, ketemu gue aja umurnya udah hampir 33. You’re gonna go ”awww” again if I tell you his answer.

He said (dengan muka serius yang jauh dari sweet): ”Belum ketemu perempuan yang mau aku liat tiap hari dan harus bareng aku tiap hari, sampe ketemu kamu.”

I smiled then teased him: ”Ngomongnya gitu. Tapi tetep aja bininya minta cerai, dicerain.”

When I said that, mukanya langsung mutung: ”Lex, nggak usah dibercandain ya kalau yang itu. Nggak suka.”

I smiled, hugged him, and kissed his face half a dozen times then said: ”Iya iya. Sensitif banget sih, Hon.”

I’ve dated many men before I married him and honestly, he’s the only one yang kalau ngomong-ngomong model begitu selalu dengan muka lempeng dan serius.

The others were so sweet, seductive, and playful. I chose this guy because he always says what he means and means what he says.

That simple.

Iseng, I once asked him this: ”Kok kamu nggak pacaran dan kawin sama dokter juga? Kan nyambung.”

Him: ”Ini maksud pertanyaannya apa? Mau curiga lagi sama dokter-dokter cewek di rumah sakit aku?” I laughed: ”Nggak, iseng nanya aja, Beno. Ih kamu, ya.”

He said: ”Udah pernah. Dulu sebelum ketemu kamu. Nggak seru, Lex. Ngomonginnya tentang pasien mulu. Aku kan pengennya pacaran, bukan ngobrolin penyakit.”

My other iseng question to him: ”Yang pernah kamu bawa pulang ketemu Bapak-Ibu selain aku siapa?” Him: ”Apa sih, Lex, nanya-nanya gini.”

Me: ”Iseng doang, Honey. Namanya juga ngobrol-ngobrol iseng.” Him: ”Kamu soalnya kalau dijawab suka cemburuan nggak jelas.”

Me: ”Yeee, ngapain juga. Udah, jawab aja. I’m just making conversation here.” Him: ”Kamu tau orangnya soalnya.” Me: ”Siapa sih?” Him: ”Dinda.”

Dinda is the one I met during Ario’s wedding, yang anaknya sempat digendong Beno. I said: ”Terus, kok nggak work out?”

Him: ”Alexandra, penting ya bahas-bahas ini?” Me: ”Nggak asik ih, ngelak-ngelak jawab mulu.” Him: ”Abis ini giliran kamu aku tanya-tanyain, wajib jawab, ya.”

Me: ”Iya, udah jawab aja. Kenapa nggak jadi ama si Dinda itu?”

Him: ”High maintenance.” Me: ”Alasan banget. Aku aja suka kamu tuduh high maintenance.” Him: (Muka serius) ”Kamu worth it. Udah ya, nggak usah tanya-tanya lagi.”

Then he asked me: ”Giliran aku nanya ya. Kenapa nggak jadi sama Denny, padahal udah pake peluk-pelukan di rumah sakit?”

I smiled and hugged his arm: ”Nanyanya nggak usah pake emosi dong, Honey.” Him: ”Nggak emosi. Cuma fakta aja.”

Me: ”Aku cerita tapi kamu nggak pake emosi, ya.” Him: ”Iya.” Me: ”Denny sebenernya udah ngajak nikah sama ikut pindah ke New York karena dia tugas ke sana waktu itu.”

Him: ”Terus?” Me: ”Aku tolak.” Him: ”Kenapa?”

I decided to play him a little bit: ”Kalau aku ikut dia pindah ke New York, terus yang dateng meriksa sambil marah-marah kalau aku sakit siapa dong?”

Him: ”Memangnya kamu kirain kalau kamu udah nikah sama si Denny itu dan di Jakarta, aku mau dateng kalau kamu nelepon sakit?”

Aww, the way he’s jealous is so cute. I said: ”Wajib dateng dong. Kan yang nelepon pasien kamu. Masa dokter milih-milih pasien?”

Him: ”Nggak milih, tapi aku yakin aku sibuk. Kirim dokter pengganti aja.” I grinned: ”Cemburu.” Him: ”Sibuk ya, Lex. Bukan cemburu.”

Well, enough stories for now. The object of my affection has just woken up in New York, 6 AM Monday there. Time for our Skype date.

7 Juni 2011

Well, it looks like Adrian is coming to the office for a meeting at 11 AM. Langsung pusing gue.

To plant a sense of security inside Beno's head, I decided to BBM him this: "Hon, aku mau lapor aja. Hari ini aku ada meeting dengan Adrian.

...jangan marah ya. Strictly business dan ada bos dan asistenku kok. Cuma pengen lapor sama kamu aja."

He, of course, called me immediately dan ceramah panjang tentang jaga diri, dan mengulangi kata-kata "aku nggak suka ya, Lex. Boleh tapi aku nggak suka".

Gue iya iyain aja biar cepet. Talk about nggak suka, gue juga nggak suka lembur tapi terpaksa tiap hari. Ya nggak? :)

Dan si Bapak Adrian itu just BBM me this: "Alexandra, I was thinking we could go out to lunch after the meeting. What do you think?"

I replied this to Adrian: "I'm sorry, saya hari ini puasa."

His reply: "Oh, okay, next time aja, ya." Me: (Sumpah ini basa-basi) "Sure."

Loving this first day of work so far. No urgent matters except for that meeting with Adrian.

I'm so tired with all of these questions of why I still work while Beno practically makes enough financially for the both of us.

Menurut gue, perempuan itu harus mandiri secara finansial. Bisa dengan kerja, bisa dengan punya usaha kecil-kecilan.

Suami tetep punya kewajiban menafkahi sepenuhnya, secara finansial juga, tapi istri itu harus punya duit sendiri.

Yang penting, walaupun lo berdua sibuk dengan pekerjaan masing-masing, jangan lupa tetap function as a couple yang memang saling butuh dan saling take care.

Walau pekerjaan gue sinting jam kerjanya, gue nggak bisa masak juga, mudah-mudahan Beno nggak pernah merasa nggak diurusin sama gue.

I made breakfast for him, keperluan dia dari ujung kepala sampai ujung kaki gue yang ngurusin, and I cater to his emotional needs.

Yang simpel-simpel aja but he knows he's being taken care of although I work and I'm busy. He takes care of me, too. That's the way we roll.

Adrian and his CFO are here, time for the meeting.

Note to self: lain kali kalau pake alasan mikir dikit. Jadinya akting puasa gue harus total dengan nolak semua teh, kopi, dan pastries di rapat ini.

The meeting is done. Dodged Adrian's invitation successfully.

Having lunch with Ryan now. I looooove Rakuzen.

Oh shit. Tebak gue nemu apa di meja kerja waktu balik ke kantor.

A box of Patchi chocolate, with a note: "Alexandra, buat buka puasa. I know you love chocolate. Cheers, Adrian".

This thing is expensive. And he remembers that I once mentioned to him that I love chocolate.

I BBM Adrian this: "Thank you for the chocolate ya. You really shouldn't have." Him: "Anything for you."

I gave the chocolate to my assistant, saying: "Buat anak kamu, ya."

Tonight's agenda: dinner with Ibu Mertua at her house. Semoga traffic ke Dharmawangsa nggak parah.

I often wonder if 15-20 years from now, Beno will also be like his dad. Like he is now also, di rumah sakit sampe jam 10 tiap malam.

Akhirnya nyampe juga. Bersiap-siap mendengarkan something like: ”Alexandra, sekarang kamu dan Beno nggak berantem-berantem lagi, kan? Yang sabar ya, Nak.”

Always love Beno’s parents’ house. Big but homey. Only the parents, the maids, and the drivers live here but it’s always warm.

The story Ibu Mertua often told me: waktu melahirkan Beno susahnya setengah mati, jadi Bapak Mertua insisted that they only have one kid.

No wonder anaknya manja banget pas udah gede ya, even now. He was spoiled rotten as an only child.

Since Beno left for New York, Ibu Mertua called me every 2 days to talk and she always said: ”Nak, yang sabar ditinggal Beno, ya.”

Ibu Mertua is now serving homemade serabi, Beno’s favorite snack since he was a kid. Sementara gue cuma bisa ngasih laki gue Beard Papa doang.

Done with dinner and conversation with ”sesama istri dokter yang sering ditinggal suaminya”, my very own ibu mertua.

Home. In bed eating the—ehm—2 Beard Papas. Dua. Gila ya. I just sent a picture of me eating the puff to Beno.

His reply: ”Oh ini mau pamer? Liat ya ntar pulang dari rumah sakit aku mau beli setengah lusin dan diabisin sendiri. Nggak boleh ngelarang.”

Me: ”Awas ya kalau balik ke Indonesia jadi buncit.” Him: ”Eh udah ya, ada pasien.”

And there it was, whatever we’re doing will have to put on halt once ”ada pasien”.

8 Juni 2011

4 AM. Just woke up to go to the bathroom. Checked my BB: no BBM or missed calls from Beno. Beneran deh ini orang ada pasien lupa segalanya.

Bpk. dr. Beno Wicaksono FICS baru nelepon jam 6 pagi tadi, which was 7 PM New York time, when he got out of the hospital.

A minute ago he BBM me: ”Aku telepon sekarang boleh?” Me: ”Baru mau meeting, Hon. Udah makan malam? ” Him: ”I want you for dinner.”

I smiled when I read that.

Another BBM just arrived, from the guy who’s making my husband jealous as hell. He said: ”Alexandra, lunch today?”

I replied: ”I’ll call you back later, ya.”

Adrian ini pantang menyerah, ya?

Adrian replied: ”Saya tunggu ya teleponnya.”

The meeting is done. First thing first, BBM the husband: ”Hon, telepon aku sekarang, ya.”

Beno and his spoiled brat act, with the ”nggak bisa tidur, Lex” and ”kayaknya sakit perut nih” and ”ke sini lagi dong” and ”bosen sendirian”.

Jam segini aja, merengek-rengek sama bininya. Kalau di rumah sakit langsung amnesia punya bini.

Itu dia yang mau gue ceritain sama lo. RT @winasoedarjo: Eh, Nyet, itu si Adrian diurusin tuh, and by ”diurusin” I meant digalakin aja, gue ikut sebel dengernya dia masih nyoba-nyoba aja terus sama lo. Ketauan sama si Beno bisa kiamat!

@winasoedarjo Barusan gue telepon si Adrian, Win. Lo tau dia jawab apa pas ngangkat? ”Kamu udah bisa? Saya jemput sekarang, ya.”

@winasoedarjo Me: ”Ya udah, saya tunggu ya.”

@winasoedarjo Maunya si Adrian, gue jawab begitu. Instead, I answered this way...

@winasoedarjo Gue bilang gini: ”Adrian, ada yang mau saya bicarakan.” Him: ”Oh ya udah. Nanti aja sekalian lunch, biar saya jalan sekarang ke kantor kamu.”

@winasoedarjo Me: ”Maaf, saya nggak bisa lunch dengan kamu. Jadi kalau boleh, saya bicarain di telepon aja, ya. Is that okay?” Him: ”Oh gitu. Kenapa, Alexandra?”

@winasoedarjo Me: ”Don’t take this the wrong way, ya. I appreciate your kind attention and your invitations. But I must say that I’m not comfortable with them.”

@winasoedarjo Dan dia menjawab dengan tenangnya, Win: ”They’re all sincere, Alexandra. You shouldn’t feel that way.”

@winasoedarjo Me: ”But I am. You see, I’m married, happily, to the man whom I adore and love. It’s highly inappropriate for me to receive such attention from you.”

@winasoedarjo Ini gue nggak bohong ya, Win, dia ngomong begini coba: ”But I do that because I adore you, Alexandra. No harm intended.”

Hey, I can’t help it if men adore me, right? *ditoyor Beno* RT @winasoedarjo: Preeeettttt, pakai ngomong adore adore lagi!

@winasoedarjo Anyway, gue bilang aja gini: ”And I can’t stop you from feeling that way. But I must tell you, sebelum kamu terlalu jauh, bahwa saya tidak bisa menerima perhatian kamu.

@winasoedarjo ...saya tidak bisa memperlakukan kamu lebih dari nasabah saya. Perhatiannya saya hargai, Adrian, but really, you shouldn't have.

@winasoedarjo ...I highly respect my marriage and my husband, and I believe that receiving this attention from you would be disrespectful of me towards him."

"Maaf ya kalau kamu merasa begitu. Honestly, I like being around you, and I'm just paying attention to the woman that I adore." RT @winasoedarjo: Snap! Ngomong apa dia lo gituin?

Kampret, serius tau dia ngomong begitu! RT @winasoedarjo: Halaaah, ini gue curiga yang bagian adore adore ini lo tambahin sendiri deh :p

Gue bilang aja: "Iya, I know I am so gorgeous that you just can't help yourself..." RT @winasoedarjo: Hahaha, iya iya, terus lo ngomong apa pas dia jawab begitu?

sodorin jidat si Adrian buat lo tujes RT @winasoedarjo: SERIUS WOI! *tujes pake stiletto*

@winasoedarjo Ini sekarang serius ya hehehe. Pas dia ngomong begitu, dalam hati gue eh buset ini orang tetep aja. So I took a deep breath, berusaha sekalem mungkin, then I said...

@winasoedarjo "Saya juga minta maaf kalau kamu kurang berkenan atas apa yang saya sampaikan tadi. Sama sekali nggak bermaksud apa-apa kecuali menjelaskan posisi saya.

@winasoedarjo ...please understand and respect my position ya, Adrian." Dia diem, then he said: "Does this mean you don't want to meet me ever again?"

@winasoedarjo "I will be your banker as long as you want me too. I'm a professional and I am committed to your account, but please understand my position, ya." Gue bilang gitu, Win.

@winasoedarjo Lo mau tau nggak dia selanjutnya ngomong apa?

"Wow I finally know what it feels like being rejected by a very beautiful woman." RT @winasoedarjo: Apa? Jangan bilang pake adore adore lagi, ya.

Nggak bohong gue, dia beneran ngomong gitu. Najis sih, but still I'm flattered ;) RT @winasoedarjo: Najis lo, Lex, najiiis!

@winasoedarjo Jago banget kan bibirnya si Adrian itu? I treated his last sentence as a joke and I laughed, gracefully, and said: "I am sure you will live."

@winasoedarjo Ujung-ujungnya dia bilang: "Saya masih mau kamu jadi banker saya. That's fine, right?" Well, absolutely fine by me. Asal nggak macem-macem aja.

@winasoedarjo Berdoa dalam hati: semoga Adrian ini dewasa dan abis ini nggak narik 600 milyar-nya itu dari bank gue. My boss will kill me.

Tonight's agenda: pulang abis maghrib, stop by at Nasi Goreng Sabang untuk take away, then eat in bed sambil nonton DVD.

The busiest surgeon in Jakarta is off to the hospital; I'm off to Sabang, driving his car yang tadi iseng gue pake ngantor.

Jangan ditangkap ya, Pak Polisi. No joki today ;)

A black Range Rover. Don't ask. Nggak bisa dilarang kalau pengen sesuatu like cars. RT @silviakudinar: Yours is Vios, right? What about Beno's?

Tapi ya sudahlah, duit dia ini. Anyway, gonna drive home now. Tweet you later.

9 Juni 2011

My regular breakfast: toasts with jam. Today's breakfast: Beno's favorite scrambled egg that this time I cook for myself.

Plus a sausage. Oh shit. The husband should really return soon before I gain weight from eating everything he likes.

Driving the husband's most prized possession—his car—again today. And no, I didn't tell him ;)

This morning I just realized how clean he keeps the car. Disayang banget kayaknya.

But I did find a Polaroid picture of me inside the dashboard in between all the CDs. Which I think is kinda sweet.

On my way to Bandung to see a client. Jadi keinget si Ndoro suka nitip cireng.

Only me and the driver in this car to Bandung. Been on the phone with the Heart Surgeon in New York. Mampus aja ini ntar bayar bill-nya. LDR is fucking expensive!

Hello, Bandung. Lunch meeting, site visit, then back to Jakarta.

Gue nggak pernah ngerti cireng ini enaknya apa, cuma tepung digoreng, yet the husband loves it. And today I am loving it, too. *facepalm*

Finally, Jakarta. Quick signing and stuff at the office, then I'm gonna head home. Sejak book account Adrian, target akhir tahun gue udah oke :)

MATI GUE! MATI GUE! I JUST CRASHED BENO'S CAR!!

I'm fine. Kaget setengah mati aja. Jantungan gue. I'm at Senopati, belakang mobil diseruduk. It's dented now. Mati gueeeeee!

Yang nyeruduk cari berantem, lagi. Just called Ryan, he's on his way here now.

Lemes banget gue sekarang.

My husband will kill me.

Ryan's here. I said to him: "Yan, lemes banget. Gue nggak sanggup nyetir lagi." Him: "Mau gue setirin atau gimana? Nggak apa-apa nih? Dibawa ke mana mobilnya?"

Me: "Bengkelnya Range Rover di mana ya?" Him: "Nggak tau. Kan ada pasti tuh dokumennya segala macem sama asuransinya. Lo simpen di mana?"

Me: "Nggak tau, yang nyimpan laki gue." Him: "Banyak-banyak doa deh lu." Me: "Sialan! Serius dong!" Him: "Dibawa pulang ke apartemen dulu aja, ya. Nanti kita pikirin."

Lemes banget aja gue. Takut banget sama laki gue, Win! RT @winasoedarjo: Nyet, nggak apa-apa kan lo? Nggak kejedut or anything?

Home. We decided to just park the car here until I know what to do. Ryan udah pulang, gue bengong di kamar mikir gimana nelepon laki gue.

My hands trembled as I typed this BBM to Beno: "Hon, lagi sibuk nggak?"

He hasn't read it yet. Gue udah mau gila ini nungguin *D* di BBM itu berubah jadi *R*.

Udah, barusan. Masih gemeteran gue, Win. RT @winasoedarjo: Nggak bakal dimarahin kali, dia kan cinta mati sama lo. Dia udah balas BBM lo?

@winasoedarjo Waktu gue bilang mau nelepon dia, malah dia bilang begini: ”Penting? Aku udah mau ketemu pasien lagi.”

@winasoedarjo Dalam situasi yang berbeda, gue akan marah dengan tanggapan itu. Come on, bininya mau nelepon pake ditanya penting apa nggak.

@winasoedarjo Instead, I typed this: ”Ada yang pengen diomongin sama kamu, boleh ya?”

@winasoedarjo Waktu HP gue bunyi and it was him calling, gue langsung membatin: Ben, jangan dibentak ya istrinya. Please, jangan dibentak, ya.

I know, but I was panicking dan takut banget beneran tadi. Kan mobil kesayangannya, Win. RT @winasoedarjo: Dia nggak akan mungkin bentak-bentak lo, percaya sama gue.

@winasoedarjo Gue tadi jawab teleponnya gugup beneran gitu: ”Hon, jangan marah ya.” Him: ”Marah kenapa?”

Dia kaget, berseru kenceng banget: ”Apa?! Kok bisa?” Sumpah, Win, gue makin gemeter. RT @winasoedarjo: Terus apa jawaban dia?

@winasoedarjo When he raised his voice like that, I swear I felt like my heart just jumped from my chest. Secara dia sayang setengah mati sama mobil itu.

Gue ceritain awal kejadiannya gimana, kan gue diseruduk gitu aja, nggak salah gue. Aduh, Win, waktu jelasin ini gue udah nangis saking takutnya. RT @winasoedarjo: Trus trus?

@winasoedarjo Dia ikut panik: ”Kamu kenapa-napa? Alex, kamu nggak apa-apa?”

@winasoedarjo Gue cuma bisa ngomong: ”Maafin aku ya, Hon. I’m so sorry. I know I shouldn’t have driven your car. Maaf ya, Hon.

Jangan marah ya...”

@winasoedarjo Gue udah nangis sesenggukan gitu, trus dia ngomong: ”Sayang, udah jangan nangis ya. Dengerin aku nanya, aku nanya kamu nggak apa-apa?”

@winasoedarjo Gue jawab gue physically nggak apa-apa, nggak ada luka or anything. Terus dia nanya gue: ”Terus kenapa nangis?”

”Takut dimarahin kamu karena udah ngerusak mobilnya. Maaf ya, Hon, please maafin aku ya.” Gue takut beneran, asli! RT @winasoedarjo: Lo jawab apa?

Nggak sih, dia malah sibuk menenangkan gue. RT @winasoedarjo: Tapi laki lo yang lo bilang galak itu nggak marah, kan?

@winasoedarjo Dia bilang: ”Udah, nggak apa-apa. Nanti mobilnya aku urus. Tapi beneran kamu nggak kenapa-napa, kan? Nggak pusing-pusing atau kebentur?”

@winasoedarjo Gue jawab gue nggak apa-apa. Pas dia nyuruh gue tidur aja istirahat, gue masih aja panik minta-minta maaf.

”Aku nggak marah, Alexandra. Aku segitu menakutkannya buat kamu sampe kamu nangis takut dimarahin?” Langsung diem gue, Win. RT @winasoedarjo: Buset, Lex, lo segitu takutnya ya? Dia jawab apa?

@winasoedarjo Makin diem gue waktu dia bilang: ”Sayang, denger aku. Yang istriku siapa? Kamu atau mobilnya? Udah ya, nggak usah nangis lagi. Tidur aja ya, Sayang.”

@winasoedarjo You know what is the best part yang akhirnya bisa bikin gue tenang?

@winasoedarjo When I asked him: ”So you’re okay, Hon?” He answered: ”Are you okay? You’re not hurt?” I said: ”I’m okay.” Beno said: ”Then I’m okay.”

I can finally breathe normally. I was so scared he's going to be mad at me.

Si Mbok knocked: ”Non, Tuan barusan telepon Mbok. Nanya Non udah makan apa belum, Mbok jawab belum. Mbok disuruh Tuan bikinin apa pun mau Non. Mau apa, Non?”

Eating rawon now, with nasi, at this hour. Laper banget setelah tadi abis energi nangis dan stres.

Quick phone call from Beno a minute ago: ”Udah makan?” Me: ”Ini lagi makan.” Him: ”Abis ini tidur ya.” Me: ”Iya.”

Him: ”Sayang, nurut ya. Besok nggak boleh ngantor. Istirahat aja. Aku udah nyuruh temen dokterku di rumah sakit untuk fax surat sakit ke kantor kamu.”

I said yes, he said he had to go to a surgery and we ended the conversation.

Kangen banget sama ndoro ganteng ini sekarang.

10 Juni 2011

Woke up since 5 AM, and have been on the phone with Beno for an hour as he just got out of surgery.

He said if I was okay and if I got a good sleep, I said yes. Then he said something that made me lost my words...

Iya, I'm okay. Panjang, Win. RT @winasoedarjo: Darl, you're okay, kan? Ngomong apa laki lo?

@winasoedarjo ”Alexandra, waktu kamu nangis ketakutan tadi malem, aku jadi mikir. Aku menakutkan ya buat kamu sampe kamu segitunya?

@winasoedarjo ...memangnya aku pernah ngapain kamu?" Me: "Nggak pernah ngapa-ngapain, Ben." Him: "Menurut kamu aku tipe laki-laki yang mukul perempuan?"

@winasoedarjo Me: "Nggak, Ben." Him: "Aku pernah ngasarin kamu secara fisik?" Gue jawab nggak. Him: "Terus kenapa harus takut banget sampe nangis gemeteran gitu, Sayang?"

@winasoedarjo Trus gue bilang ini, Win: "Kamu kalau marah nyeremin." Him: "Kapan aku marah yang bikin kamu takut?"

@winasoedarjo I told him some occassions yang bikin takut. His voice was so calm: "Sayang, aku marahin kamu supaya nggak sering-sering lembur karena apa? Karena aku sayang, kan?

@winasoedarjo ...aku marahin kamu tentang si Adrian bangsat itu juga kenapa? Karena aku nggak mau kamu dideket-deketin orang. Aku pernah nggak marah membabi buta nggak jelas?"

@winasoedarjo Me: "Nggak, Ben." Him: "Jadi kenapa takut?" Me: "Karena aku nggak minta izin dan aku merusak mobil kamu. Him: "Tadi malem pas nelepon, aku ada nanya nggak mobilnya gimana?"

@winasoedarjo Me: "Nggak, Ben." Him: "Aku nanya apa? Aku nanya kamu kenapa-napa atau nggak, kan?"

Heh!!! RT @winasoedarjo: Lagi senyum-senyum sendiri baca sahabat gue si #nomention yang sedang cerita diceramahin oom-oom.

Reseh! Udah jelas itu gue! Mau dilanjutin nggak ini ceritanya?! RT @winasoedarjo: LOL kan gue #nomention, emang lo yakin itu lo? Beno oom-oom ya? LOL

Iya, ntar. RT @winasoedarjo: Ngambekan. Lanjut dong, Darling, lumayan hiburan pagi sambil nungguin anak gue les.

@winasoedarjo Abis dia nanya itu, gue diam. Then he said: ”Alexandra, kapan ya kamu bisa ngerti bahwa aku cuma peduli sama kamu, nggak yang lain-lain? Kalau kamu sebagai istri takut sama aku, aku harus gimana?

@winasoedarjo ”...jadi jangan mikir gitu lagi ya, Sayang. Aku nggak tenang di sini kalau kamu menganggap aku itu monster yang harus kamu takuti.”

gampar Wina pake Balenciaga RT @winasoedarjo: Eh koreksi. Yang ngomel bukan oom-oom, tapi monster ;)

@winasoedarjo Gue jawab: ”Hon, kamu nggak monster kok. Jangan gitu dong ngomongnya.” Him: ”Aku harus mikir apa coba setelah tadi malem kamu nelepon nangis ketakutan gitu?”

@winasoedarjo ”...sayang kamu banget, Alexandra. Dimengerti ya, ini cara aku sayang ke kamu. Yang kamu bilang absen, marah-marah kalau kamu lembur, semuanya, dimengerti ya.”

Kampret! Tetap gue merasa sebagai tahanan kota. RT @winasoedarjo: Ya udah deh, Lex, cuma ngabsen ini doang, kan? Mending disuruh absen apa nguras kolam renang?

Anjis, kata-kata lo ya, dodol!!! RT @winasoedarjo: Status tahanan kota kan tapi dalam penjara cinta ;)

@winasoedarjo: We talked some more, then he said: ”Sayang, kalau aku ngasih peraturan satu lagi, ini karena sayang ya. Jangan dibilang aku nakutin, ya.”

Selama dia di NY, gue nggak boleh nyetir, sama sekali. Cakep nggak tuh? RT @winasoedarjo: Peraturan apa lagi?

Iya, si Ahmed disuruh kerja 7 hari full sama dia. Katanya gajinya udah dia naikin. RT @winasoedarjo: Sama sekali? Terus kalau lo mau keluar weekend gimana?

Boleh, jam 12an? RT @winasoedarjo: Lo nggak ngantor, kan? Lunch bareng yuk. Gue juga lagi cabut karena tadi morning sickness-nya parah.

Me, Ahmed the driver, my car, off to Penang Bistro for lunch with Wina.

I prefer driving by myself, apalagi weekend, there's something soothing about being alone in the car with my fave music playing.

Tapi berhubung ndoro gue udah bersabda, ya...

Dirayain biasa aja. RT @jennessiachance: Pas dating ada pas ultah nggak? Ultah si Dokter Beno? Rayaiin nggak? Hehehe ;)

Gue udah serasa selebritis gini jawab-jawab pertanyaan follower.

Not with people, just us. He hates the idea of celebrating his birthday, by the way. Katanya: "Cuma ngingetin aku tambah tua aja. Buat apa?"

We got married in December last year. He proposed on October. Dia ultah Februari dan kita belum pacaran, masih ketemuan-ketemuan di nasi goreng itu aja.

Kita baru mulai pacaran April. So on his birthday last year, we were still... bukan friends juga sih, cuma two exes yang udah damai aja.

Anyway, waktu ultahnya, dia ngajak gue ketemuan makan di Nasi Goreng Sabang.

Setelah gue trace ke belakang, sebulan sebelum itu, Januari, dia yang menghadap orangtua gue untuk minta izin deketin gue lagi.

So on his birthday, February, he's already had the intention to marry me again (isn't he sweet?), but we're still just that: temen makan.

Anyway, back to that night, I said: ”Selamat ulang tahun ya, Beno.” Him: ”Terima kasih ya, Alexandra.”

Me: ”Formal banget sih jawabnya?” Him: ”Abis kamu juga ngucapinnya formal.” Me: ”Jadi mau kamu aku ngucapin gimana?”

Him: ”Nggak usah ngucapin. I hate birthdays, remember?” I laughed again: ”Masih?” Him: ”Nggak usah ngomongin ultah deh, Lex. Yang lain aja ya.”

So for the rest of the night, we talked about anything but his age and his birthday.

Then, as he walked me to my car, bukain pintu gue dan gue masuk mobil, I don’t know gue kesambet apa, I said: ”Beno, sini deh. Ada yang mau aku bisikin.”

He brought his face closer to me, then I kissed his cheek, quickly: ”Happy birthday ya. Udah nggak formal, kan?”

Mukanya langsung merah, langsung canggung gitu, tapi senyum, and he said: ”Nggak.”

Me: ”Dan kamu nggak tua kok. Udah ya, aku pulang.” I drove away karena lama-lama gue yang grogi soalnya.

On my birthday, kami baru pacaran sebulan, Wina threw me a surprise party at Cork and Screw. Beno was there, tapi acaranya kan rame banget.

Jadi kami nggak punya waktu berdua sampe the party was done by 3 AM when he drove me home, and he stayed in my apartment sampe pagi.

Winding down from the party yang katanya ”too loud dan too crowded, Lex”. We just sat on the couch dan nonton DVD sampe ketiduran.

One of the most awkward things that we had to deal with when we're dating after the divorce: saling mengingatkan bahwa banyak yang belum boleh lagi.

You know, men are basically kucing, and you—women—are ikan asin. Kalau kucing disodorin ikan asin, unless the cat is gay, nggak bakal nolak.

Dan nggak akan bisa berhenti makan juga, sampe ikannya abis, atau piringnya ditarik.

So when fooling around with your man, IMO, it's you—the woman—who has the control on when to stop him.

And any gentleman would stop if you tell him to stop, because he respects you.

I forgot where I read this, someone said that men basically only have 2 emotions: hungry and horny.

When they experience one of those emotions, they usually lose the ability to think straight. Hence, lo-nya jangan ikutan can't think straight juga.

Once the thing down there wakes up, believe me, it will take control of his head.

Jadi, menurut gue, kalau sebagai perempuan kita merasa nggak bisa think straight enough untuk mengoperasikan brake itu, mending nggak usah fooling around.

Ndoro ganteng always respects what I say. When I say "udah ya" or "nggak boleh", dia nurut.

Mukanya mutung—but hey it's bawaan lahir anyway LOL—tapi dia nurut.

And why I respect Beno so much, when yours truly here forgot to hit the brake, he knew the point where he should stop.

Anyway, with Beno and I, when we're back dating again, it's awkward and weird because we were married once.

Meaning, he's seen me naked, I've seen him naked. He and I know all too well what turns each other on.

So the "pacaran again" period was definitely weird. Sort of: you know what's waiting at the end of the tunnel but you can't go there.

So I'm definitely glad that the weird period is only 8 months.

Friday night alone at home and I'm tweeting all this kind of shit. Sorry for smearing your timeline.

Hahaha, bukan pencitraan, dodol! RT @winasoedarjo: Yang barusan rangkaian tweet pencitraan "pacaran baik-baik", ya?

11 Juni 2011

Lagi pengen es krim Ragusa dan sate Padang, two of Beno's favorites too. Selera laki gue random banget ya.

His favorite way of eating ice cream at home: he pulled up my shirt, put a scoop on my bare tummy (sumpah dingin), and eat it there.

Ups. That was TMI. Too much information ;)

2.000 followers on Twitter, a hot husband, and I'm going out to lunch alone. Sedih ya hidup gue.

Gara-gara lo, gue jadi ngajak Adrian nih RT @winasoedarjo: Hahaha, melas banget sih lo, sori gue nggak bisa ya, Sayang.

Hahaha, bercanda, Nyeeet. Gila aja lo, emang gue mau? RT @winasoedarjo: SETAN! NGAPAIN LO NGAJAK SI ADRIAN ITU LUNCH?!

Gonna drive to rumah Kebagusan and swim there. Correction: disetirin Ahmed. No more privacy.

You know, sooner or later this guy will implant a GPS tracker on my body.

Sometimes I wonder if he's this demanding and spoiled with his previous girlfriends.

How do I know about Beno's exes? Ario told me after he introduced Beno to me.

His 1st girlfriend was in the university, Rania. From what Ario said, she's beautiful, feminine, and very attentive. Dated for a year.

Reason for breakup (Ario said): the girlfriend thought he's too serious and studied all the time.

2nd girlfriend: Dinda. Remember the woman we met at Ario's wedding? Beautiful, fun, kinda party girl. Ario said to me: kayak elu.

Where they met: Dinda was taking her dad to the doctor, the doctor was Beno. Ario said, it was Dinda who made the 1st move.

Dated for 8 months. Reason for breakup (again, ini kata Ario): Beno grew tired of Dinda's party girl attitude while she thought he was a tight ass.

Who would've thought bahwa Dinda the party girl yang akhirnya duluan menikah dan punya anak?

3rd girlfriend (the last before me): Kinar, the doctor. Met when she's an intern at Beno's hospital.

Dated for 6 months. Kata Ario putus karena Beno nggak suka diatur-atur, and the woman was controlling. Beno said to me: "Bosen ngobrolnya masalah pasien mulu."

Then he stopped dating for a while, busy with his cardiology studies and all that.

Then me. It'll be unobjective for me to describe myself.

You know, for someone as high quality as he is: he's nice, smart, with a great job, and hot—I was surprised to find his dating history to be as limited as that.

After Ario introduced us and Beno asked for my number, Ario said to me: "Be nice to him ya. Temen gue tuh, Lex." I laughed: "Maksud lo apa?"

Ario: "Gue tau banget elu, ya. Elu pasti mau 'ngerjain' dia karena lu bilang dia agak arogan, sombong segala macem." I laughed again: "Tenang aja."

Him: "Beneran, Lex. Dia baik, tau. Bukan arogan, cuma emang nggak pinter ngomong aja. Do not, please, do not play him." Me: "Kagaaaak. Udah tenang aja."

So we went out on dates. Awalnya gue penasaran aja how to break the wall of this tight ass, mysterious, serious, and quiet guy.

Anyway, long story short, here we are. We're still the same person that we were years ago, but now he has learned to handle me and vice versa.

Decided to just have lunch at home, and the used-to-be arrogant doctor stays up (it's 1 AM in New York) untuk menemani gue makan lewat Skype.

While we're on Skype, I BBM him this: "Hon, mau lapor. Aku jadinya makan sama laki-laki ganteng, tinggi, who has a sexy ass, deep eyes, dan sayang sama aku, lagi."

His BB beeped and he ignored it. I said: "Diliat dong, Hon, BB-nya. Mana tau penting."

He looked at it, and smiled at me when he saw the BBM. He said: ”Makasih ya laporannya.”

Then he suddenly asked me this: ”Eh Lex, memangnya pantat aku seksi, ya?” Me: ”Don’t rub it in, okay?” He laughed.

Arrived at the Kebagusan house. Swim, swim, swim!

Buying this house back was one of the best decisions we made. I loooove the pool. He and I both love this house, tapi untuk pindah ke sini masih berat. At least for me. Nggak tahan macetnya kalau pagi mau ke kantor.

Ten laps on the pool and now I’m chilling by the poolside, in my bikini, with a glass of chilled orang juice.

And I thought to myself: damn I’m a lucky bitch.

3 years ago my life was hell, but now this. I didn’t realize how fulfilled I feel now.

I guess I never said this before, but... Ben, thank you for chasing me back.

12 Juni 2011

I just got my period this morning.

I guess Beno junior-nya belum jadi :(

I didn’t know I’d be this sad about the whole thing.

Udah. Kapan ya gue hamil, Win? :(RT @winasoedarjo: Hey, sweetheart, are you okay? Sabar ya. Udah ngomong ke Beno?

@winasoedarjo Tadi pagi gue kasih tau dia pas Skype: ”Hon, aku mens pagi ini.” Dia malah khawatir nanyain gue sakit perut apa nggak, lemes apa nggak.

@winasoedarjo Gue bilang gue nggak apa-apa, cuma sedih aja kenapa belum hamil. Dia senyum menenangkan and said: ”Nggak apa-apa, Sayang. Nanti aku balik dari New York kita bikin lagi, ya.”

Hehe iya. But although he’s smiling trying to calm me, I can see the disappointed look in his eyes. It breaks my heart, Win. RT @winasoedarjo: Hehehe, Beno banget nggak sih ngomongnya gitu?

@winasoedarjo I said to Beno: ”Maaf ya, Hon.” Him: ”Kok minta maaf sih?” Me: ”Udah bikin kamu kecewa.”

But that’s exactly how I feel, Win. I feel like I’m disappointing him. RT @winasoedarjo: Ya ampun, Lexy, jangan ngomong gitu. Gue yakin si Beno juga nggak merasa begitu.

@winasoedarjo Dia sih jawabnya: ”Aku nggak apa-apa, Sayang. Udah ya kamu jangan sedih gitu. Kalau kamu sedih aku yang sedih. Nggak apa-apa, nanti kan bisa usaha lagi. Udah nggak usah dipikirin ya.”

Banget!!!! RT @winasoedarjo: I bet somebody is missing a certain somebody in New York right now ;)

@winasoedarjo Makin kangen pas dia bilang ini: ”Ini sebabnya aku nggak pernah suka kamu jauh-jauh dari aku, Lex. Nggak ada yang meluk kamu kalau kamu lagi merasa begini.”

I just realized this. When you’re married, you start to feel for two people—you and your spouse.

You are always as happy as the other person in the marriage.

We’re laughing now reminiscing all the silliness we did during our 2nd honeymoon.

Our 1st was in Bali, our 2nd was in Maldives. That’s probably the only thing that we have in common: we prefer beaches than mountains.

Ten days of everything that starts with S: swim, sunbathe, shag, and sleep.

On my way ke rumah orangtua Beno, acara keluarga. Dear God, bless me with patience and coolness in dealing with the tantes.

Dan akhirnya pertanyaan itu muncul juga. Fake smile all over my face.

The tante asked me this: ”Alexandra, mana nih oleh-olehnya dari New York? Udah ada di perut belum?”

Tante yang 1 lagi menimpali: ”Iya, udah jauh-jauh mahal nyusul ke New York udah ada hasilnya dong.”

Gue pengen jawab: ”Tante, your keponakan Beno and I fucked 29 times while I was in New York tapi belum jadi janin gimana dong.”

Tapi daripada ybs dan ibu mertua pingsan dengernya, instead I said this: ”Belum ada tanda-tanda, Tante. Kalau udah pasti nanti saya dan Beno akan kabari.”

Acara akhirnya selesai, on my way home now with the driver.

You know, usually, when being asked those kinds of question, emosi yang gue rasakan adalah marah. Punya hak apa mereka nanya hal itu ke gue dan Beno?

Tapi tadi I was more sad than angry. This time, Beno and I did try, we do want it, dan tadi pagi baru tau bahwa ternyata belum dikasih.

I once said this to Beno: ”I’m sorry I don’t like your tante, ya.”

Him: ”Nggak apa-apa, Alexandra. You don’t have to like everybody and everybody doesn’t have to like you.”

I love this guy.

You don't want a guy like Beno, trust me. You want a guy whom to you is like Beno to me.

13 Juni 2011

Miss me?

After all this shit at work today dan dimarahin bos gue, rasanya mau jadi ibu rumah tangga socialite yang kerjanya shopping dan arisan aja.

Mana yang di New York ngambek karena seharian gue nggak sempet absen dan nggak sempet Skype.

Injih, Bunda Wina. RT @winasoedarjo: Nggak baik jauh-jauhan berantem, Dek Alexandra.

Masih mending gue panggil Sis? *korban online store* RT @winasoedarjo: Kampret, gue dipanggil Bunda. *tujes pake stiletto*

Home, TV, bored, no news from the ngambek boy yet.

I think I should tweet something. Mau cerita apa ya.

Now that I think of it, sayang iya. Cinta, I don't think so. RT @chubycheek: Cerita donk, sebenernya waktu itu cinta ama Denny nggak sih? ;)

Weekend: Saturday terserah dia, Sunday terserah gue. RT @Tinezya: Kalau weekend biasanya ngapain? Berasa "nggak enak"nya jauh dari Beno?

Berasa nggak enaknya jauh dari dia? Everything. Once you coexist with someone, even just his nearness matters.

And I miss him so much right now, even the word ”so much” seems like an understatement.

Pake duit nenek moyang lo, ya. RT @winasoedarjo: Nggak usah kayak orang susah deh, terbang sana nyusul.

Masih banget! Umur udah oom-oom juga masih aja pake ngambek. RT @winasoedarjo: Ih, nenek moyang masing-masing dong! LOL. Btw, masih ngambek yang di New York?

@winasoedarjo Ini barusan gue BBM lagi: ”Ganteng, udahan dong marah sama aku-nya. Your wife wants you so much right now.” Tetap dong dibaca doang nggak dibalas.

Mau gue apain lagi si Ndoro ini biar nggak ngambek lagi.

@winasoedarjo Hhhhh, si Beno ini bisa nggak sih jauh-jauh begini kelakuannya nggak bikin emosi? *pengen nonjok dinding*

Gini ya, Win, barusan kan gue BBM lagi: ”Hon, kamu marah beneran, ya? Telepon aku ya biar kita omongin. Jangan diem begini dong, Honey.” RT @winasoedarjo: Eh kenapa lagi sekarang? Udah dibales akhirnya BBM lo?

@winasoedarjo Dan lo tahu dia balas apa? ”Nggak marah. Supaya kamu tau aja rasanya nggak dikabarin seharian.”

Gue balas lagi aja: ”Can we call it even then?” RT @winasoedarjo: Ckckck, Beno Wicaksono....

@winasoedarjo Malah dibalas: ”Aku banyak pasien. Nanti ya.”

@winasoedarjo I don’t know how to reply to that without losing my temper.

@winasoedarjo So I sent him this: ”I’m sorry if I keep disappointing you, Ben. I’m not pregnant yet and I can’t follow a simple rule of absen ke kamu.”

14 Juni 2011

Just woke up. A dozen missed calls from Beno and even more BBMs. Akhirnya ada yang kangen juga.

Nelepon, gue suruh aja si Mbok bilang gue udah tidur. RT @winasoedarjo: Dia nggak nelepon ke apartemen? Biasanya kan laki lo itu langsung panik kalau lo nggak bisa dihubungi.

@winasoedarjo Most of his BBMs sound like this: "Sayang, kamu nggak apa-apa? Kalau dah bangun, telepon aku ya, jam berapa pun." Sekarang aja baru ngomong "sayang".

Emotionally exhausted.

@winasoedarjo All morning, I've been "reporting" to the possessive husband: "aku udah berangkat ke kantor", "aku ada meeting keluar", dan "aku ada lunch dengan nasabah".

He called and BBM after each of my report, I chose not to pick up or reply. RT @winasoedarjo: Dia nelepon balik atau BBM nggak?

Iya akhirnya udah gue angkat kok tadi teleponnya. Nggak sampai hati juga gue. RT @winasoedarjo: Kasian, Lex, lagi sendirian jauh di New York gitu. Lupakan dulu aja ketusnya dia kemarin.

He sounded worried: "Lex, kamu nggak apa-apa? Aku nggak bisa tidur karena kamu nggak bisa ditelepon." RT @winasoedarjo: Ngomong apa si Wicaksono?

@winasoedarjo Gue jawab: "Aku nggak apa-apa. Kamu tidur aja." Him: "Nggak bisa tidur mikirin yang kamu BBM kemarin, Lex. Kenapa sampai gitu ngomongnya?"

@winasoedarjo Sengaja gue jawab datar-datar aja. "Udah, nggak usah dipikirin. Nggak apa-apa. Aku udah absen kan seharian ini seperti yang kamu mau?"

@winasoedarjo Terus gue pamit aja mau ketemu nasabah. Males ngobrol lama-lama.

Nggak, dia masih sempat ngomong ini: ”Sayang, aku mau ngobrolin yang kamu bilang kemaren, bahwa kamu bikin aku kecewa karena belum hamil.” RT @winasoedarjo: Lo putusin teleponnnya?

@winasoedarjo Dia ngomong ini juga: ”Jangan ngomong gitu, Yang. Kamu sama sekali nggak bikin aku kecewa.”

Short and concise: ”Udah, nggak usah dipikirin. Nanti ya, aku mau ketemu nasabah. Bye.” RT @winasoedarjo: Dan lo menanggapinya dengan...

Sometimes I think it’s so hard for me to please you, Ben.

@winasoedarjo Beno just BBM me this: ”Sayang, aku nggak ngerti kenapa kamu beginiin aku, tapi karena apa pun itu, aku minta maaf ya. Sekarang boleh nelepon?”

Arggggh, men! Mau shortcut-nya aja, mau tau salahnya apa pun nggak.

The problem of being a woman: nggak pernah bisa sampai hati to the one you love.

We just talked for the last 20 minutes and he’s now tucked in bed, ready to catch some sleep. It’s already 5 AM in New York.

Udah. Susah ya, mau tidur aja harus di-ninabobo-in sama suara istrinya. RT @winasoedarjo: Udah baikan? Good girl :)

@winasoedarjo The minute I picked up the phone, he said: ”Yang, nggak bisa tidur dari tadi gara-gara kamu.” Gue cuma bisa menghela napas, bayangin muka memelasnya.

Siapa suruh udah jauh-jauhan juga masih ketus-ketus ke gue? RT @winasoedarjo: Tuh kan, kasian tau, Lex, jauh-jauh gitu lo musuhin.

I know, tapi ya istrinya lagi jauh gini nggak usah dimarah-marahin mulu kenapa. RT @winasoedarjo: Piye Bu Alexandra, kayak baru sekali ini aja kawin sama yang namanya Beno. Kan udah tau orangnya begitu.

@winasoedarjo Gue jadi sedih pas dia ngomong ini: "Karena kamu bilang begitu, aku jadi mikir bahwa sebenarnya aku yang mengecewakan kamu, Lex. Aku yang sekuat dan sesehat ini belum bisa menghamili kamu."

@winasoedarjo Makin nggak sampe hati gue pas dia ngomong begitu. I said: "Honey, apa sih ngomongnya begitu? Aku nggak pernah mikir begitu.

@winasoedarjo Gue jelasin bahwa kemarin gue emosi. Pulang kantor lagi ribet and had a really bad day at work dan pengen cerita ke dia, tapi dianya malah marah-marah.

@winasoedarjo Dia bilang: "Aku itu khawatir, Lex. Aku udah pernah bilang sama kamu kenapa aku minta kamu absen, kan? Aku jauh, jadi denger kamu lapor rutin gitu, aku tenang kamu nggak apa-apa."

Ya, tapi masa caranya dengan begitu. Lupa ngabsen langsung marah? RT @winasoedarjo: Tuh kan, lempeng-lempeng suka ngomel gitu cinta mati sama lo kali, Lex ;)

@winasoedarjo Gue bilang ke dia: "But that's for your peace of mind kan, Hon? What about mine? Kadang aku cuma pengen menenangkan diri dari stres dengan ngobrol sama kamu."

@winasoedarjo Tapi nggak bisa, karena dia sibuk dengan pasien. Kalau pas gue bisa ngeluh capek di kantor sama dia, adanya dia langsung ngomong "Quit aja kalau udah nggak tahan."

@winasoedarjo Gue bilang ke dia: "When I told you how bad my

day at work, Ben, I just need you to listen or tell me ’everything’s gonna be okay’, bukan malah nyuruh resign.”

Diem. RT @winasoedarjo: Pas lo ngomong gitu, dia menanggapinya gimana?

@winasoedarjo So I said: ”Cuma mau cerita itu ke kamu. Jadi udah, kamu nggak usah mikir macem-macem. Istirahat tidur aja ya, Hon. Kalau kamu sakit kan aku juga yang pusing.” We talked a lil bit more until he’s all relaxed to go to sleep.

It’s just that sometimes I think he wants to be the center of my attention all the time, but I can’t be his.

Orang yang di mata orang lain hidupnya terlihat mendekati sempurna juga boleh mengeluh, kan?

It doesn’t mean that they’re ungrateful. It just simply means that their life is not as perfect as you think it is.

The simplest things in life are what make us happy eventually. A warm and comfy home, being loved, and knowing that somebody can’t live without you.

16 Juni 2011

You know what sucks? SQ nggak ada flight. Beno baru bisa terbang dari New York Minggu malem dan nyampe Jakarta hari Selasa pagi. Crap.

Menyenangkan hati yang sedang kangen sampai ke ubun-ubun ini dengan belanja-belanja boleh kan, ya?

17 Juni 2011

One of those days where I'm reminded why I fell in love with this guy.

You know what Beno just said to me? Him: "Lex, kalau kamu nggak keberatan, nanti kalau kamu hamil aku niat mau ngasih operasi gratis ke 7 orang nggak mampu sebagai tanda bersyukur aja. Menurut kamu gimana?"

I was speechless for like 3 seconds, then I said: "Pulang cepetan ya, Hon. I want to kiss you and hug you so tight right now."

Any of you can guess why 7?

That's the total number of times my mom and his mom had miscarriages before we're born. Makanya gue dan dia sama-sama anak tunggal.

Kata orang-orang tua itu turunan, so I'm a bit worried. But medically speaking, it's not.

Yes I am :) The future daddy of my babies has a heart as big as the ocean. RT @ragatniaclara: He'so sweeeeeet. You're lucky, Alex...

Untung dulu waktu gue dan dia cerai, dia nggak "ke mana-mana".

18 Juni 2011

I really miss males-malesan dan peluk-pelukan in bed with him on weekends.

I really miss our conversation about anything as we lie in bed, me putting my hand on his cheek and stroke his face gently.

I really miss him waking me up in the morning then said: "I want to have you for breakfast this morning. Sekarang boleh, ya?"

Selasa ini masih lama banget, ya.

I really miss seeing his serious, nerdish face as he read his books in bed everytime I come out of the bathroom.

I really miss seeing him blush as I sit on his lap, take the book away from his hands, and say: ”Udahan ya bacanya.”

I even miss the numb feeling on my right thigh from him hogging it too long when we sleep.

Beautiful afternoon swim. Jadi mikir untuk permanently move to this house.

6:15 AM in New York. The husband is awake and now joining me in the pool through Skype.

A heartwarming conversation at the poolside about nothing and everything.

I love that he and I talk more in this 2nd marriage. In our 1st, it was purely lust. We had nothing in common so we rarely talked like this.

Dulu males ngobrol karena emang nggak nyambung, but I found him to be kind, hot, and fascinating.

He found me to be somebody that he couldn't keep his eyes and hands off. We were madly in love and we got married.

Until the differences and the misunderstandings separated us.

Kalau sekarang, dia lebih bisa terbuka ngobrol, gue lebih bisa sabar dan menerima pekerjaannya yang jam kerjanya sinting itu.

Dia berusaha lebih menunjukkan perhatian, gue berusaha menghilangkan stigma bahwa gue selalu nomor dua di hidup dia, his job being number 1.

Can’t believe it took us 6 years to get here.

Indeed. RT @winasoedarjo: Everything happens for a reason.

19 Juni 2011

Breakfast: cereal and the husband on Skype in New York.

Beno’s words just now: ”Ntar kita nggak usah punya anak perempuan, ya. Nggak sanggup, Lex.

...lagian kalau punya anak perempuan, aku bisa pusing tiap hari ngusir-ngusir laki-laki gatel kayak tipe-tipe Adrian gitu. Jaga ibunya udah susah, jaga anaknya apalagi.

...tapi kalau tetep dapet perempuan, aku maunya dia dianter jemput ke mana-mana sama sopir sekalian pengawal. Setiap temennya harus dikenalin ke aku.”

Gue cuma bisa geleng-geleng kepala sambil senyum. Hamil juga belum, peraturan buat calon anaknya udah banyak begini.

Do possessive husbands always turn into overprotective dads?

Growing up as an only child, perempuan lagi, gue udah merasakan betapa nggak enaknya dilarang-larang dan dikekang-kekang yang justru bikin makin pengen ”bandel”.

So I promised to myself that when I have kids, I won’t be like that. I’ll be the cool one. Which is 180 derajat bedanya dengan Beno hehe.

I want my kids to be cool social butterflies. I bet the dad, my conservative husband here, mau ngekepin mereka sampe gede.

Me: ”Terus anak perempuan kita ntar boleh pacaran umur berapa? SMA?” Him: ”Nggak! All-girl boarding school! Aku tau laki-laki itu paling nggak bisa jaga tangannya.”

I smiled teasing him: ”Kayak kamu dulu nggak bisa jaga tangan pas kita pacaran, ya?” Him: ”Alex, ini serius. Pokoknya kalau anak kita mau pacaran, harus di rumah kita aja, diawasin sama kamu atau sama aku. Biar nggak ngapa-ngapain.”

Dalam hati gue: Beno honey, we’re going to have a lot of fun fights raising our future kids. I’m the fun parent and you’re like the parole officer.

Then he said: ”Kalau anak perempuan kita mirip kamu dan aku yakin pasti foto kopi ibunya, di-homeschool aja. Daripada dikejar-kejar horny teenange boys.”

Me: ”Ya ampun, Honey. Too much deh kamu.” Him: ”Nggak bisa aku ngeliat anak perempuan kita dipegang-pegang orang.”

Me: ”But you were like one of those horny teen boys to me when we were dating.” Him: ”Makanya. Kalau bapak kamu tau aku begitu, pasti aku juga udah digiles.”

I laughed when he said that.

Life is never boring when everyday I have this weird, silly conversations with my husband that only us understand.

He just fell asleep and it’s almost midnight in New York. I’m gonna go pamper myself at the spa for the rest of the afternoon.

20 Juni 2011

The husband just called me. He’s boarding the flight to Frankfurt, then Singapore, then Jakarta. Have a safe, enjoyable flight, hon.

On my way home now. I don’t think I can sleep tonight.

I know he’s nyebelin, demanding, and reseh sometimes, tapi puasa Beno selama 18 hari ini bikin mau mati rasanya.

I know. What were we thinking, ya? RT @winasoedarjo: Awww, dulu aja, puasa 2 tahun pas masih pisah tahan ;)

Beno to me is like a security blanket to a little kid. The world is full of scary monsters without him.

Dia pasti besar kepala dan kesenengan banget kalau tau gue ngomong begini.

You wanna know something?

Kalau gue ketiduran malam-malam, munggungin dia karena dia masih baca dan nyalain lampu, dia selalu memeluk gue dari belakang.

Gue selalu terbangun because I'm a light sleeper. But I always pretend I was still asleep just because I want to hear him say the following...

He'd kissed the back of my neck and whispered: "Jangan pernah minta cerai lagi, ya." That's all, and then he'd go back reading.

I miss these little things that he does.

I always believe that if someone really loves you, they will do things to show that they care even when you're not looking.

21 Juni 2011

Will leave to the airport in any minute to pick him up. Kasian, waktu tadi nelepon dari Singapura suaranya serak dan dia bilang lagi sakit.

Ahmed will drive Mbok to my parents' house after this. Beno requested that it's just the two of us at home tonight.

Heboh deh gue ntar sendirian ngurus si rewel ini. Doctors are the worst when they're sick.

He has just landed, now he's in immigration. He sounded so tired on the phone.

Traffic from the airport to our apartment is crazy. Beno badannya panas dan sekarang tidur di mobil di pangkuan gue.

I put my hand on his forehead and he clearly has a fever.

Home. Fed him, changed his clothes, hugged, and kissed him to make him feel better, and now he's asleep like a baby hugging me.

Me: "Pusing?" He nodded. Me: "Nggak enak banget ya badannya?" Him: "Kedinginan, Lex." Me: "Mau aku bikinin sesuatu, Hon?" Him: "Mau tidur dipeluk kamu aja."

Demam aja manja banget ini orang, ya.

Udah 2 jam tidur, Beno nggak bangun-bangun, dan malah makin lelap. Duh, gue udah mulai pegel dikekepin.

Anyway, ndutan lho dia. Perutnya buncit dikit, tadi pengen ngeledek pas pertama liat tapi langsung nggak sampe hati liat mukanya yang lemes.

Rubbing his belly to soothe him, I thought he's still asleep. Suddenly he whispered: "Bawahan dikit dong, Lex." I laughed: "Eh, lagi sakit juga."

Well, boys will be boys. Even when they're sick.

23 Juni 2011

Sabtu ini si dokter ngasih kuliah umum about something that I can't pronounce at a medical school here in Jakarta.

Maunya. Tapi dia bilang: ”Nggak usah ya, Lex. Ntar aku grogi kalau ada kamu.” RT @winasoedarjo: Lo pergi ikut liat kuliahnya?

I bet he’ll look so sexy standing in front of 200+ students, with his glasses, shirt, khaki trousers, and serious face.

Walaupun gue pasti bakalan zzzzzz dengerinnya, won’t understand a word he’s saying soalnya, hehehe.

24 Juni 2011

I love how sometimes the things that make him happy are as simple as this crappy nasi goreng that I cook.

Atau ini karena tiap dia makan sendirian dan gue cuma nemenin, gue duduk di sebelahnya dan elus-elus punggungnya as he eats?

One other thing that I always do: wipe his lips with tissue after he eats. Agak-agak keterlaluan ya gue manjain dia.

Everytime after I did that, he smiled, kissed my cheek quick, then langsung ngeloyor nonton TV atau baca.

But my favorite wifey stuff that I do for him—well, except the obvious one—is picking and preparing his clothes.

I do this thing almost automatically.

Bangun, mandi, getting ready for work, nyiapin baju dia, sarapan, nyium dia yang biasanya masih tidur, dan cabut ke kantor.

Ingat malam gue minta cerai sama dia dulu dan dia cabut? Dia tidur di Kebagusan.

Dan gue bangun pagi, mandi, siap-siap, dan otomatis mau nyiapin baju dia. Waktu tiba-tiba gue sadar dia nggak ada...

It hurt like hell.

Gue baru liat dia lagi malamnya, waktu dia pulang ke apartemen kami.

Dia bilang: ”Kalau kamu masih tetap mau cerai, mulai besok kita urus, ya. Dan mulai besok aku tidur di Kebagusan aja.”

Gue mengiyakan. He came into our bedroom, took his clothes, and slept at the guest bedroom that night.

The next morning when I woke up, he’s gone. Mbok said he’s gone right after subuh and didn’t even have breakfast.

Waktu gue buka lemari baju, baju-bajunya udah nggak ada.

Tinggal tersisa sebagian. And I felt this stabbing pain on my chest as I realized this separation was finally real.

I went to work in the illusion that everything was fine. Then I came home from work and this time all of his clothes were gone.

Waktu gue ngomong everything was fine, maksudnya gue harusnya baik-baik aja karena ini gue yang minta.

Lemarinya kosong. Yang dia tinggalin cuma satu T-shirt-nya yang biasa gue pake tidur kalau kangen pas dia dinas keluar atau sibuk nggak pulang-pulang dari rumah sakit. I never knew a human being could shed tears as much as I did that night.

We didn’t talk or meet until the weekend, when he texted me this: ”Lex, sebaiknya kita ngomong ke orangtua kamu dan orangtua aku.”

We did. And it wasn’t easy.

When our parents asked us whether there was anything that can change our mind and make us stay together, I couldn’t fork up an answer.

So I just sat there in silence. Beno, on the other hand, said: ”Nggak ada.” Suaranya dingin. Dan tegas.

That’s when my sadness turned to hatred. He didn’t even try to stop me. He just let me go.

That’s when I was sure that my asking him for a divorce was not a mistake then. He didn’t want to work on this marriage either.

So why should I?

Kadang kalau lagi inget-inget masa itu, dan dia sekarang di sebelah gue, rasanya surreal.

I just kissed his cheek as he’s seriously reading. Dia noleh, kissed me back, and said, ”Bentar, dikit lagi selesai bacanya. Jangan ditinggal tidur, ya.”

Surreal bahwa itu mulut yang sama yang dulu selalu pengen gue tampar kalau dia ngomong ketus dan kurang ajar ke gue.

But isn’t love funny?

25 Juni 2011

Ganteng banget laki gue ini dengan celana panjang khaki dan kemeja putihnya yang digulung sesiku.

Already on our way to Salemba.

Gue bujuk dong tadi pagi. RT @winasoedarjo: Lo jadi nonton dia ngasih kuliah? Bukannya dia nggak ngasih lo ikut?

Come on, kapan lagi gue bisa jadi saksi mata si kaku yang biasanya susah ngomong ini tiba-tiba ngasih kuliah di depan orang banyak?

Without the glasses (he only wears them when he reads), he’s hot. With the glasses, he’s geeky hot. Mulai lebay gue kayaknya.

The female medical students would drool over him.

We’re already in the classroom. Gue nyelip duduk di belakang. Around 200 students here.

Tadi sebelum turun dari mobil, I kissed him all over his face for half a dozen times sampe dia blushing, then I said: ”Good luck ya, Hon.”

Dua jam ini kelamaan. I just wanna take him home and have my way with him right now.

What can I say, Win, this nerd is turning me on right now. RT @winasoedarjo: Hahahaha, so watching him giving a lecture is an aphrodisiac?

Udah, tapi sekarang Beno malah dikerubutin para mahasiswa itu, mau ngobrol. RT @winasoedarjo: Udah kelar belum kuliahnya?

I love our sleepy, morning shag. Half awake, slow, attentive.

Lazy Saturday at home.

This is actually our first weekend together in Jakarta since New York and we both don’t feel like going out.

We’re spending the weekend at our Kebagusan home, by the way.

He’s now seriously watching *House* on TV in bed and I’m just reading *InStyle*.

I guess as our relationship matures, we feel less need to go out and do something to have fun as a couple.

At home together all day. The nearness of each other, ini yang bagi gue dan Beno namanya menjadi real couple.

When you’ve been with someone long enough, you’ve developed this habits of how you react to each other even when you’re not saying a word.

Like when Beno is seriously reading or watching TV and I'm next to him, his hand is stroking my hair to show that he's not ignoring me.

Or when I'm working on my laptop in bed and he's already sleepy, I stretch my thigh so he can hug it and fall asleep.

Or when I'm in bed watching TV and he came home from the hospital and he just put his head on my lap and lay there without saying a word...

...I know it's not a good day for him but he doesn't talk about it. So I just said: "Capek, Hon?" He nodded, I said: "Ya udah tiduran dulu aja, ya."

It's these little things. Not our dinner dates at some fancy restaurants or the things that he bought me.

And one day, we'll add a baby to this routine and I know that he'll make a great dad. I can picture him holding our baby to sleep. One day.

Dia udah ketiduran dengan remote TV di tangan. I took the remote from his hand, pulled up the blanket, kissed his forehead and whispered...

..."Semoga aku bisa segera ngasih anak ke kamu ya, Ben."

I can't wait to see him running around this big house chasing our little boy who's laughing and yelling "Daddy Daddy".

Keisengan gue malam ini: setting up a table by the poolside to eat there. Sort of a homemade candlelit dinner. In pajamas!

Mau tahu tanggapan laki gue apa?

"Mau dinner pake lilin, ya? Yah nggak puas dong ngeliatin makanannya."

tepok jidat Ini orang nggak ada romantis-romantisnya sama sekali.

Gue juga bengong. RT @delicya_elita: OMG, Oom Ben. Candlelight dinner = dinner pake lilin -__-

Dinner dulu, ya. Kalau ada yang protes makanannya nggak keliatan mau gue kasih senter!

26 Juni 2011

Morning swim while the sun is still friendly to the skin. Beno gue paksa bangun nemenin berenang, tapi dia malah ketiduran di poolside.

Saking ngantuknya, istrinya yang hot ini (I'm allowed to be narcissistic, right?) pake bikini juga nggak mempan bikin matanya terbuka.

Buat yang nanya hobi Beno apa: tidur, gue (so sweet, right? He said this to me once), bedah, baca, dan jogging.

What's your plan this Sunday? Us: just stay at home and wind down before hectic Monday arrives.

27 Juni 2011

@winasoedarjo I love how Beno never forgets to ask me, "Kamu udah, Yang?" every time we're doing it.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw I love how Riza never forgets to "buang di luar" every time we're doing it.

@winasoedarjo Hahahaha, bangke!

Good morning, by the way. Males banget ke kantor pagi ini.

Si Beno sih enak banget, abis tadi bisa tidur lagi, sementara gue harus siap-siap ngantor. Ada 8 o'clock meeting lagi.

I need a new job with better working hours. Ada nggak sih bank yang masuknya jam 9?

Already in the meeting room.

Lately, he's been doing 2-3 surgeries a day. Sekali bedah bisa berdiri 3 jam. Kebayang kan itu capeknya?

I'm worried about his back. Udah mengeluh on and off selama sebulan terakhir. Takut kenapa-kenapa.

This morning after we did it, dia megangin pinggangnya dengan muka meringis. I asked him: "Kenapa, Hon?" Him: "Nggak apa-apa, pegel dikit aja."

One last meeting with the client.

Home. Found Beno sleeping in our bed, tengkurep tanpa bantal, sepatunya pun belum dibuka. Touched his forehead, nggak panas.

Took off his shoes and his socks, masih lelap. Kamu capek atau sakit, Hon?

Beno tadi bangun, manggil gue tanpa bangun dari tempat tidur dan tetap tengkurep. Me: "Hon, kamu kenapa?" Him: "Punggungku sakit, Lex."

I'm so worried and this guy doesn't even want to go to the doctor.

So this is what I've been doing for the last hour, lying next to him and rubbing his back. He's now asleep but I'm so worried.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Keseleo? Salah urat?

@winasoedarjo Nggak ngerti. Tidurnya nggak gerak dari tadi, tetep di satu posisi, tengkurep dengan kepala menghadap ke kanan. Kasian. Katanya kalau ubah posisi jadi sakit banget.

I decided to call his dad. He's a neurologist. After I explained his symptoms, his dad said: "Bawa ke tempat praktik Bapak aja sekarang ya, Lex."

Tweet you later, ya. Mudah-mudahan setelah diperiksa nggak ada apa-apa.

Already in the hospital. Beno is getting his back examined, including MRI. Aduh moga-moga nggak apa-apa ya.

It breaks my heart to see him in pain.

The verdict is in. Ada sarafnya yang terjepit, tapi alhamdulillah fixable. Harus fisioterapi dan disuntik selama sebulan.

Total rest for 3 days. No strenuous physical activities for a month, including lifting stuff, driving, sports/exercise, and sex.

He doesn't like the news. I'm just glad his condition is fixable.

Mau nyetir dulu ya. Good night.

28 Juni 2011

Kasian banget laki gue. Saking sakitnya punggungnya, sholat subuh aja sambil duduk karena nggak bisa nunduk.

I decided to skip work for three days nemenin dia di rumah. Nggak apa-apa deh bohong ke kantor kalau gue sakit demi si manja ini.

My biggest worry is that he can't handle the back pain. His biggest worry is that he can't do me for a month. Dasar laki-laki.

Last night I asked his dad penyebabnya apa, katanya kecapekan tapi aktivitas fisik dipaksain atau posisi tidur nggak bener.

Merasa bersalah banget gue, katanya kalau sakit begini sebenernya nggak boleh dipijet. Padahal kemarin gue injek-injek terus punggungnya karena dia minta.

Tadi malam Beno ngomong begini dengan muka cemberut: ”Ini bukan laki-laki lagi namanya. Nggak bisa nyetir, nggak bisa ngapa-ngapain kamu.”

I smiled, kissed him, and said: ”Ganteng, apa sih ngomongnya begitu? Norak tau.”

Gonna let Beno sleep for a while before his physiotherapist comes.

Beno lagi ditarik-tarik sama fisioterapisnya. Pengen nangis gue ngeliat mukanya kesakitan.

Beno’s dad is on the way here to give his son more shots on his back sebelum mulai praktik.

Wina, Riza, and Tiz baru nyampe, dan Tiz bawain sekotak Beard Papa buat Oom Beno favoritnya. So cute.

Tiz langsung duduk di pangkuan Beno dan nyuapin Beard Papa-nya. They look so cute. I want a daughter, Ben.

Tiz udah rewel ngantuk, so Wina and Riza just left a minute ago. Beno juga udah mulai ngantuk gara-gara pengaruh obatnya.

Tadi sebelum dia tidur, gue bilang ke dia: ”I love seeing you with Tiz, you’re both so cute.” Him: ”Tau banget sih dia oom-nya suka Beard Papa hehehe.”

I smiled teasing him: ”Yakin masih nggak mau anak perempuan, Hon?” Him: ”Mau, tapi nanti pusing jagainnya. Jagain kamu aja aku udah pusing.

...nanti juga bikin bangkrut kayak mamanya.” I laughed: ”Nggak segitunya kali, Honey.”

29 Juni 2011

Which part of ”dilarang dokter, bapak kamu sendiri” don’t you get, Honey?

Well, the bapak mertua is here. Time to wake Beno up for his shots.

Hehehe, barusan diledekin bapaknya: ”Dari semua pasien Bapak ya, baru kamu yang kalau disuntik harus dipegang tangannya sama istrinya.”

1 Juli 2011

Grogi mampus cooking Beno’s routine scrambled egg in front of his mom yang pagi-pagi udah di sini.

Already at the office. FYI, tadi ibunya nyicip. Gue stres. Sampai dia senyum dan bilang enak. Semoga nggak bohong.

Kebayang kalau bohong, once I left, ibunya ngomong begini ke Beno: ”Your wife cooks you this shit everyday?”

I’m so fucking angry right now, @winasoedarjo. Lo di mana sih, gue telepon nggak bisa-bisa?

@winasoedarjo Shit, Win, gila ya si Beno itu? Gue barusan pulang bentar untuk ngecek keadaannya karena lagi nggak ada bos di kantor. Lo tau gue nemu siapa?

@winasoedarjo Ada si Rani, Win! Tau kan lo, si dokter di rumah sakitnya yang dulu pernah nempel-nempel sama laki gue itu!

@winasoedarjo Iya sih datengnya bertiga sama temen-temen dokter si Beno yang lain. Tapi yang bikin gue pengen gampar adalah si Rani itu lagi duduk di sofa di sebelah Beno, megang-megang lengan laki gue. Kampret.

@winasoedarjo Gue langsung beku rasanya pas nyampe rumah. Gue paksain senyum, gue hampirin si Beno, gue cium pipinya, trus gue duduk aja di sebelah dia.

@winasoedarjo Gue elus-elus aja punggung si Beno, baru si Rani itu sadar dan ngelepas pegangannya dari lengan si Beno.

@winasoedarjo Dan laki gue ini ya, dengan muka lempeng tanpa rasa bersalah dan antengnya memperkenalkan tiga-tiganya ke gue.

@winasoedarjo Terus dengan santainya si Beno ngobrol aja gitu sama mereka, bahas-bahas kondisinya si Beno pakai istilah kedokteran, gue nggak ngerti. Gue cuma bisa senyum-senyum aja, padahal udah nggak tahan lagi pengen gampar si Rani itu.

Ini makanya gue mau cerita ke lo. RT @winasoedarjo: Eh ini kenapa lagi? Ada kejadian apa? *baru liat timeline*

Iya! That bitch! RT @winasoedarjo: Ada si Rani?!

@winasoedarjo Panas gue, Win, panaas!!! Begitu mereka pergi tadi, si Beno masih nggak sadar juga muka gue udah pengen marah. Dengan santainya dia malah buka kulkas nyari makanan.

@winasoedarjo Gue langsung tanya aja: "Udah lama tadi temen-temen dokter kamu di sini?" Dia jawab: "Nggak, 5 menitan sebelum kamu dateng."

@winasoedarjo Lalu Beno dengan cueknya duduk nonton TV sambil makan es krim. I completely lost my coolness then.

Gue meledak dong, Win: "Si Rani itu udah biasa ya megang-megang lengan kamu kayak tadi?" Dia kaget dan menoleh ke gue: "Ada apa sih, Lex?" RT @winasoedarjo: Aduh Kang Mas Beno ckckckck.

@winasoedarjo Gue bilang: ”Pantes betah banget di rumah sakit sampai malem-malem tiap hari. Ada yang megang-megang rupanya, ya.”

@winasoedarjo Dia menghela napas, bangun dari sofa dan berdiri di depan gue: ”Alexandra, kok gitu sih ngomongnya? Temen-temenku dateng jenguk kok kamu marah-marah begini sih?”

Menurut lo? I’m so fucking angry, Win. Gila ya? RT @winasoedarjo: Yah berantemnya serius kali ini.

@winasoedarjo Gue bentak dia: ”Jadi aku nggak boleh marah ngeliat perempuan lain, yang kerja sama suamiku tiap hari, megang-megang lengan suamiku kayak tadi?”

”Sayang, itu tadi nggak ada apa-apa. Friendly gesture aja, dia kan temen.” Can you believe it?! RT @winasoedarjo: Terus laki lo ngomong apa?

@winasoedarjo So I said: ”Oh, jadi friendly gesture dia ke kamu kayak begitu? Ada friendly gesture yang lain yang aku nggak tau? Yang aku nggak liat kalau kamu sama dia di rumah sakit?”

@winasoedarjo Yang Mulia Beno Wicaksono itu cuma ngomong begini: ”Kok kamu jadi curigaan begini sih?”

@winasoedarjo Gue panas! ”Ini bukan curiga. Ini menyimpulkan apa yang aku liat sendiri. Kali kalau di rumah sakit kamu nyampe pagi-pagi, dia suka meluk kamu ngucapin selamat pagi ya?”

@winasoedarjo ”Kok kamu jadi nuduh-nuduh nggak jelas begini sih?” katanya gitu. Gue bilang: ”Aku jadi mikir sekarang kenapa kamu tiap hari pulang dari rumah sakit malem terus. Karena ada dia ya?”

@winasoedarjo Dia balas: ”Lex, aku nggak suka ya kalau kamu mulai nuduh-nuduh nggak jelas kayak begini. Aku di rumah sakit sampai malem itu kerja. Banyak pasien. Ini sampai sakit.”

@winasoedarjo Gue jawab dengan sinis: ”Tadinya aku juga mikir begitu, Ben, sampai aku liat si Rani itu di rumah kita sendiri berani-beraninya megang-megang kamu.”

@winasoedarjo Dengan tenangnya dia cuma ngomong begini: ”Aku kan udah jelasin. Itu cuma friendly gesture, Alexandra. Kamu berlebihan. Dia begitu ke semua orang. Emang anaknya begitu, bukan cuma ke aku aja.”

@winasoedarjo Gue bentak: ”Aku nggak peduli kalau semua orang itu dia pegang, peluk, cium, apalah terserah! Yang aku peduli cuma kamu! Aku nggak suka!

@winasoedarjo ”...mau dia cuma towel kamu, aku nggak suka. Kamu tau apa lagi yang aku nggak suka? Aku nggak suka kamu diem aja waktu dia begitu ke kamu!”

He tried to touch my face to calm me down, gue tepis tangannya. RT @winasoedarjo: Ngamuk deh anak orang... Terus si Beno gimana?

@winasoedarjo He said calmly: ”Udah ya, kamu lagi emosi. Nanti ngomongnya makin macem-macem.”

@winasoedarjo Gue bilang juga: ”Aku baik-baik sama Adrian, padahal nggak ada apa-apa, kamu ngamuknya ke mana-mana ya, Ben. Tapi yang ini, yang udah jelas-jelas aku liat, aku nggak boleh emosi?”

@winasoedarjo Dia langsung tensi tinggi denger nama Adrian: ”Itu beda! Dia udah jelas-jelas ngejar kamu! Nggak ada friendly-friendly gesture-nya kalau itu!”

@winasoedarjo Gue bentak balik: ”Memang beda! Adrian itu paling jauh cuma salaman sama aku ya, Ben. Si Rani itu nempel-nempel sama kamu! Beda!”

Ini ngetik tweet-nya aja gue masih emosi. RT @winasoedarjo: Buseeet, ini Bu Wicaksono ngamuknya dahsyat hari ini.

@winasoedarjo Gue bentak dia: ”Dihargain dong istri kamu ini, Ben. Nggak perlu lagi kamu menikmati dikejar-kejar perempuan lain, ditempel-tempel begitu.”

@winasoedarjo Dengan tenangnya dia malah ngomong: ”Yang menikmati siapa? Yang ngejar-ngejar siapa? Kamu suka berlebihan ya menanggapi begini doang.”

@winasoedarjo ”Jadi nggak menikmati itu namanya, dipegang-pegang lengannya gitu diam aja?” gue bilang begitu. Jawaban dia? ”Jadi aku harus ngapain? Aku dorong dia? Aku kasarin?”

@winasoedarjo Gue bales aja: ”Ya ampun, Beno. Masa aku harus ngajarin cara kamu menghargai aku? Tunjukin kamu gerah kek digituin, ngelak kek, bilang nggak suka kek, susah?”

@winasoedarjo Dia masih tenang, berusaha membujuk gue, gue udah eneg, jadi gue cabut aja: ”Udah. Aku udah males liat muka kamu,” gue langsung pergi ke pintu. Dia kejar gue: ”Lex, Sayang, mau ke mana?”

@winasoedarjo Langsung gue ketusin: ”Bukan urusan kamu.” Masih ngejer aja dong. Dia bilang: ”Gimana caranya bukan urusan aku? Kamu itu istriku ya.”

@winasoedarjo Gue berhenti, menoleh ke dia: ”Sama dengan ternyata bukan urusan aku bahwa di rumah sakit kamu, friendly gesture-nya kayak begitu.”

@winasoedarjo Lalu gue banting pintu di depan mukanya. Nyebelin banget orang ini!

He’s been calling me and BBM me since then, nggak gue angkat dan nggak gue bales. Biar dia mikir sendiri. RT @winasoedarjo: Ya ampun... Sejak berantem tadi udah ngobrol lagi sama dia?

Asshole.

I am so going to stay at Kebagusan tonight.

Oh shit, bapak dan ibu mertua udah telanjur mau dateng dinner nanti malam ya. Shit.

@winasoedarjo Setelah 20-an kali telp-nya nggak gue angkat dan puluhan BBM-nya nggak gue bales, dia akhirnya nyerah dan nggak nelepon-nelepon lagi. Bagus. I need to work.

Dan satu orang di kantor udah jadi korban kemarahan gue because I'm in such a bad mood.

Masih panas banget gue membayangkan si Beno udah seberapa banyak dipegang-pegang sama perempuan itu, Win! RT @winasoedarjo: Lo beneran mau cabut ke Kebagusan malam ini? Aduh, Darl, ditahan dikit kebiasaan kabur-kaburan itu.

Paling juga dengan muka lempengnya itu kayak nggak salah apa-apa. RT @winasoedarjo: Ya ngapain juga lo bayang-bayangin, kan jadinya yang darah tinggi elo, kan? Tenang aja dulu. Nggak usah kabur, pulang dan lihat reaksinya dia gimana.

@winasoedarjo Ini barusan dia BBM lagi: "Nanti malam dinner dengan Bapak-Ibu tetap jadi, kan?" Gue bilang aja: "Jadi, but that doesn't mean everything is okay between us."

@winasoedarjo Kurang ajar banget ya si Beno itu. Minta maaf pun kagak. Cuma ngomong: "Itu nggak ada apa-apa, cuma friendly gesture, kamu berlebihan."

Kalau nggak suka ya dia ngomong dong sama perempuan itu, bukan diem-diem pasrah aja. RT @winasoedarjo: Darl, jangan marah ya kalau gue ngomong ini: memang banyak kan perempuan yang tangannya ramah kayak si Rani itu, bukan berarti laki lo suka lho digituin.

@winasoedarjo Nanti gue telepon lo ya. Now I gotta calm myself down so I can come home, have dinner with him and his parents, and pretend nothing happened.

Jam 5-an katanya, jadi gue akting aja deh sampai jam berapa pun mereka pulang. Then I'm off to Kebagusan. RT @winasoedarjo: The in-laws jam berapa mau dateng?

Next: dinner. Semoga bapak dan ibu mertua ini nggak lama-lama di sini. Gue udah nggak tahan liat muka nyebelin anaknya ini.

His dad just said this: "Tadi pagi Lexy telpon Bapak, katanya kamu nggak mau fisioterapi lagi? Harus terus, Ben, kalau berhenti kamu sembuhnya baru 3 bulan lagi.

...jadi nanti tetap fisioterapi ya. Orangnya dateng jam setengah 8. Nggak boleh berhenti."

Beno said: "Tapi Senin udah bisa mulai praktik di rumah sakit dan bedah kan, Pa?" Dalam hati gue: udah nggak sabar kamu mau ketemu perempuan itu lagi?

Sebel gue, Win. RT @winasoedarjo: Aduh, Darling, sabar ya, jangan terlalu cepat mikir macem-macem gitu.

Bloody hell. Let this night be over soon.

Physiotherapy session in a minute. Males liat mukanya biar nggak kasian.

On my way to Kebagusan. Alone. Yeah I'm tweeting while driving, sue me. I don't fucking care.

Macet kampret. I hate Jakarta on a Friday night.

Ya jadilah. RT @winasoedarjo: Lo jadi beneran cabut ke Kebagusan? Ya ampun, Lex...

Waktu dia melihat gue sedang packing, dia nanya: "Mau ke mana?"

Gue jawab: ”Kalau boleh, aku mau tidur di Kebagusan malam ini.” RT @winasoedarjo: Lo dibiarin aja gitu pergi sama dia?

@winasoedarjo Dia menghela napas: ”Tadi kamu bilang kalau boleh, kan? Kalau aku bilang nggak boleh, gimana?” Gue balas menatap matanya: ”Tergantung kamu melarangnya kenapa.”

@winasoedarjo Ntar gue lanjut, traffic-nya jalan.

Baru nyampe rumah kebagusan. Shit, I did not think this through. Serem juga tidur di rumah segede ini sendirian.

But I’m just too angry to stay at the apartment.

I haven’t told you what he said next, Win. It fucking hurts. RT @winasoedarjo: Darling, jangan terlalu kebawa emosi, kalau lagi berantem kan ngomongnya jadi suka asal.

@winasoedarjo Dia bilang: ”Aku melarang kamu pergi karena kelakuan kamu dari dulu nggak berubah. Kamu selalu begini kalau kita ada masalah.

@winasoedarjo Dia bilang gue begini, Win: ”You bail, Lex. Kita ada masalah dikit and you bail. Pergi gitu aja. Bukannya malah tetap di sini dan bahas dengan aku.”

@winasoedarjo ”...jadi kalau malam ini kamu mau ke Kebagusan tidur sendiri, aku nggak setuju. Kalau kamu nggak mau ngomong sama aku malam ini, fine. Tapi jangan pergi.”

@winasoedarjo Gue memutuskan tetap pergi. Gue bilang ke dia: ”What you just said is not good enough reason for me to stay. Aku tetep pergi ya, besok kalau udah tenang aku balik.”

No, he just stood there, in silence, as I picked up my bag and my car keys and left. RT @winasoedarjo: Did he chase you?

Now I’m in this house, all alone, tired, scared, sad, and angry.

I turned all the lights on, turned the volume of the TV as loud as I can, and I'm here, in bed.

@winasoedarjo The asshole just called me: ”Cuma mau ngecek kamu udah nyampe Kebagusan atau belum.” Me: ”Udah.”

@winasoedarjo Then he hung up. Asshole.

Shit, harusnya gue bawa Mbok untuk nemenin.

I can't sleep.

Now I wonder if he still feels pain after his physiotherapy.

2 Juli 2011

Just woke up, in Kebagusan. Mendung.

Iya, masih. Nggak usah, Darl, si Beno nyusul kok tadi malem. RT @winasoedarjo: Hey, are you okay? Masih di Kebagusan? Gue ke sana ya, kita ngobrol.

Jam 12an, gue udah ketiduran, eh kebangun gue jerit-jerit waktu tiba-tiba ada yang meluk gue dari belakang. Serem mampus! RT @winasoedarjo: Alhamdulillah, ada yang waras dan nyusul ;) Jam berapa tadi malem laki lo dateng?

Coba lo jadi gue, jejeritan nggak lo lagi tidur sendirian tiba-tiba ada yang meluk. RT @winasoedarjo: Ya ampun... Lo ada-ada aja sih.

@winasoedarjo Sambil meluk itu dia ngomong: ”Lex, Sayang, denger dulu, ini aku. Nggak usah jerit-jerit lagi, ini aku, Yang. Punggung aku sakit nih kalau kamu meronta-ronta terus.”

@winasoedarjo I finally calmed down. The asshole husband meluknya makin kenceng: ”Udah? Dengerin aku dulu, ya.”

@winasoedarjo Dia bilang: ”Aku nyusul ke sini karena 3 alasan.”

Dalam hati gue, aduh si nerd ini pasti bakal ngomong pake bullet points.

Untung cuma tiga, nggak tiga puluh. RT @winasoedarjo: Dan lo hafal tiga points-nya itu? LOL :p

@winasoedarjo Him: "Satu, nggak aman buat kamu tidur di sini sendirian, nggak ada yang jagain.

@winasoedarjo "Dua: aku nggak bisa tidur sendirian. Sakit banget punggung aku abis di-fisioterapi dan kamu main cabut aja. Nggak bisa tidur kalau nggak kamu peluk, Lex."

@winasoedarjo "Tiga: dulu waktu kita pacaran lagi, kamu pernah bilang supaya aku jangan pernah melepaskan kamu kayak dulu. So this is me, Yang, not letting you go."

@winasoedarjo Dia bilang: "Jadi aku nggak peduli kamu masih marah, bilangnya mau tidur sendiri. Nggak boleh. Aku putuskan malam ini kita tetep tidur bareng."

@winasoedarjo "...kalau kamu nggak mau ngomong sama aku atau nggak mau liat muka aku, fine. Punggungin aja atau pejemin mata kamu."

Ih, berisik, dengerin dulu gue selesai cerita. RT @winasoedarjo: Yah kasian banget udah sakit-sakit gitu nyusul terus dipunggungin.

@winasoedarjo Dia bilang: "Kalau mau berantem atau bahas ini, besok. Sekarang aku cuma mau tidur meluk kamu. Titik."

@winasoedarjo Suaranya tegas, nggak pake basa-basi, nadanya datar.

@winasoedarjo Gue nggak tau mau ngomong apa jadi gue diem aja. Within a minute, dia udah ketiduran, tetap meluk gue dari belakang.

I thought, ya sudahlah. Gue juga ketakutan nggak nyenyak gitu tidur sendirian di sini. RT @winasoedarjo: Ehm, diterima aja pelukannya? ;)

Gencatan senjata. Until both of us wake up.

Gue raba saku celananya, ada kunci mobil. Nyetir sendiri berarti tadi malem. Bandel banget ini orang.

Si Beno ini meluknya kenceng banget kalau tidur. Gue mau pipiiiiiis.

He woke up when I broke free from his embrace: ”Mau ke mana?” Me: ”Pipis, boleh kan?” Dia diem.

Done with breakfast and we’re still not speaking to each other. Gue mau berenang aja.

Loving the morning sun touching my skin.

Not loving that we’re still not speaking to each other, though. Sebel gue liat mukanya.

Kan dipeluknya dari belakang nggak keliatan mukanya. #alesan RT @winasoedarjo: Sebel-sebel tapi udah dipeluk semalaman ;)

Beno lagi di halaman depan ngelap-ngelap mobilnya. Udah tau punggungnya sakit, masih aja ngurusin mobil. Minta maaf sama bininya males banget!

Dia barusan nyamperin ke pool sambil megang punggungnya, nanya: ”Aku mau delivery pizza buat makan siang. Kamu mau yang mana?”

Gue bengong. Ini maksudnya mau tetep nginep di sini?

Karena gue diem, dia bilang: ”Ya udah, aku asumsikan yang biasa ya.” Trus ngeloyor pergi.

Mati gaya gue. DVD it is then.

He just called me from the living room saying that the pizza is here. What the hell. He's still acting like nothing's wrong.

I chose to take a couple of slices and eat in the bedroom. He eats outside, in the living room.

Laki lo dokter kandungan, dodol! RT @winasoedarjo: Makanya baikan aja. My husband looks at other women's vaginas everyday and I'm cool with it.

Nggak tau mau ngomong apa gue, Win. RT @winasoedarjo: That's not the point, Nyet. The point is, gue yakin dia mau liat seberapa banyak pun, yang dia suka dan dia cinta cuma punya gue.

Aagh bodo! RT @winasoedarjo: Lo ngerti nggak sih? Doctors touch and get touched by a lot of people, but who does he come home to? You. Get it?

@winasoedarjo Beno and his antiques. Gue kesambet apa dulu ya cinta sama orang ini. You know what he just did?

@winasoedarjo Dia masuk kamar, meluk gue, terus sambil meluk ngomong begini: "Udah kenyang masih ngambek nggak? Udahan dong ngambeknya."

@winasoedarjo Then he went on: "Aku ini sayang setengah mati sama kamu, Alexandra. Jadi apaan sih pake cemburu-cemburu nggak penting begini?"

@winasoedarjo Gue lepasin pelukannya: "Iya tapi nggak bisa gitu dong, Ben..." Dia motong: "Udah dulu ya, nanti aja bahasnya. Mules banget dan mau mandi."

@winasoedarjo Dan dia langsung lari ke kamar mandi. Gue bengong.

Beno’s doctor—his dad—is going to be so mad if he finds out.

Last night he drove a car, while he shouldn’t. This noon he... we... oh well...

Beno: ”Oke yang barusan salah aku, tapi yang tadi malem aku nyetir itu salah kamu, ya.” Me: ”Enak aja, gimana caranya?” Him: ”Siapa suruh kabur jadi harus disusul?”

Sekarang gue yang stres ngeliat dia mulai megang-megang punggungnya.

When I asked him does it hurt, he said: ”Agak sakit, but totally worth it.” Dasar gendheng.

The physiotherapist is here. From now on, I will call him a mean, medieval torture machine.

I’m tweeting to distract myself from watching him getting tortured by the therapy. He’s quiet but from his face I know it hurts like hell.

3 Juli 2011

Aduh, Beno, panjenengan bandel banget sih? Bapakmu nanti marahnya ke aku. Piye iki?

Morning swim as soon as I woke up. Membasuh dosa tadi malam. #eeaaa

@winasoedarjo Si gendheng bangun dan nyusul ke pool: ”Lex, sarapan yuk.” Me: ”Nggak boleh lagi, Beno!” Him: ”Yah dibentak. Kan laper. Pengen scrambled egg.” Me: ”Oh kalau itu boleh.”

Heh!!! RT @winasoedarjo: Hahahaha! You’re both are officially pasangan paling gendheng yang pernah gue kenal.

Beno just said this to me: ”Yang, tinggal di sini aja yuk sementara.

Sampai bosen.” Me: ”Okay.” Him: ”Serius mau?” Me: ”Asal kamu seneng aja, Honey.”

I love this house because it’s the place where we ended most of our fights, while the apartment is where we started them.

Me: ”Hon, si Mbok mau dibawa juga ke sini kan?” Beno: ”Pengennya sih berdua aja, Lex.”

Aw, I love how sweet he is sometimes. Me: ”Pengen juga, Hon. Tapi aku nggak sanggup ngurus rumah segede ini sendirian.” Him: ”Ya udah. Bawa aja.”

Him: ”Ehm... Lex, kalau si Mbok cuma dateng untuk masak dan bersihin rumah aja boleh nggak? Jadi malamnya kita tetep berdua aja.”

Me: ”Kenapa tiba-tiba pengen gitu?” Him: ”Sejak kita nikah, si Mbok udah jadi saksi aku-kamu berantem, dengerin kita ngapain juga. Aku cuma pengen punya privacy berdua sama kamu.”

I smiled: ”Koreksi, Hon, sejak pacaran.” Him: ”See? Sejak kita pacaran. Bohong-bohongnya aku dan kamu ke orangtua kita, dia tau terlalu banyak. Mau ya, Lex?

...aku kan selama ini mati gaya kalau lagi meluk-meluk kamu di dapur dan dia melintas.” I laughed: ”Ya udah, terserah kamu aja.”

Jadi senyum sendiri gue inget kejadian kami pacaran di apartemen kepergok si Mbok one night.

Tiap Jumat malam sampai Sabtu, biasanya si Mbok gue suruh pulang ke rumah orangtua gue, biar bisa di apartemen sendirian sekali-sekali.

Beno dan gue pulang ke apartemen abis late dinner, sekitar jam 10an malem, Jumat malemnya.

Asumsi gue si Mbok udah pergi dari sore, karena pas pintu dibuka apartemennya sepi banget dan nggak ada suara.

Then, while we did the things we usually did on the couch, tiba-tiba ada suara: "Eh!!"

Kami kaget setengah mati, ternyata ada si Mbok baru keluar dari kamarnya. Beno saking kagetnya jatuh dari sofa dan kejedut meja, hehe.

Ini kejadiannya waktu pacaran sebelum nikah yang kedua kali. Si Mbok buru-buru balik ke kamarnya, gue jadinya ngurusin benjol si Beno.

Males ngapa-ngapain banget hari ini. Is this the world's lazy day?

I really really have to learn to say no to Beno. And mean it.

His favorite words these past 2 days: "Your mouth says no but your body says yes." Aaagh, kampret ini orang.

Dan sekarang dia tersenyum penuh kemenangan all the way back to Kebagusan.

Already at Kebagusan. Bapak mertua is here examining his back, and his comment is: "Ini kenapa ya punggungnya agak stiff?"

Me: "Tadi ngangkat barang, Pak. Suka bandel kalau dilarang."

Beno langsung melirik kejam ke arah gue, hehehe. Bapaknya langsung menasihati panjang-lebar, gue ikut dengerin sambil ngangguk-ngangguk.

Examination done. Injection done. Bapak mertua has just left. And Beno just said this to me dengan muka bete: "Oh jadi sekarang kamu nyebut diri sendiri 'barang'?"

Gue ketawa terbahak-bahak.

Kenapa makin lama percakapan gue dan si Beno ini makin gendheng, ya?

Gila lo! RT @audreynovita: Gimana kalau Mbok dibikinin akun Twitter? Pasti banyak rahasia lo dan Beno yang terbongkarrr... Hehehe

Untung asisten rumah tangga kita udah mbok-mbok ya. Kebayang kalau masih muda dan bisa ngetweet. Mampus gue.

Terbongkar aib ini, terbongkaaar *drama*

Lucu-lucuan sore yuk. What do you think si Mbok would tweet if she could?

Hahaha, bangke abis yang ini! RT @frisaerika: Pasti isi tweet-nya: "Gila ya majikan gue, ngelakuin di mana-mana! Gue ampe malu mau keluar!" Hahahaha.

Jleb, ngeledek abiiis! RT @SirlyWidyaNasir: "Aduh kenapa majikan gue cantik-cantik nggak bisa masak sih? Kan capek bok gue." Hahaha peace.

Tega dibilang labil. RT @popiikoo: Mungkin Mbok nge-tweet, "Majikan gue labil banget. Sebentar berantem, abis itu baikan lagi, terus berantem lagi."

Hahaha sialan! RT @RiriJayantee: Pasti si Mbok bakal sering nge-tweet yang isinya, "Wah suara 'itu' lagi."

You are all hilarious!

Emang reality show? RT @fatimahzahra: Kalau Mbok bisa nge-tweet kita bakalan maksa dia live twitpic terus semua kegiatan lo berdua.

Gue ngakak abis-abisan. Pada gelo ya. Si Beno yang lagi baca buku sampai bingung.

4 Juli 2011

I'm off to Bandung with Ryan. Tweet you later, suckers!

Tadi di Rumah Mode, ada kaus anak lucu banget, and I thought: "Andai ada little Beno yang bisa gue beliin itu."

The little baby T-shirt says: "Foto kopi Ayah". Sooo cute that I can't resist.

Disambut macet Jakarta.

My nerdy boy udah nyampe rumah duluan, dan mulai ngomel-ngomel kenapa gue belum. Nanti ya, Ben, kalau Vios bisa terbang.

Gue tanya kok bisa pulangnya cepet banget, dijawab ketus: "Bosan di RS nggak bisa surgery."

Repot deh kita hari ini. Marah-marah terus dari pagi karena puasa bedah.

Finally home. Semoga sogokan cireng favoritnya itu cukup buat nyumpel mulutnya biar mingkem, nggak ngomel-ngomel.

Beno + cireng + wii = mingkem. He's so easy to please sometimes ;)

He just got a haircut but he hasn't shaved in 4 days. Muka bikin khilaf. *damn it, Alex, get yourself together!*

Aduh, Beno, dulu ibu kamu ngidam apa ya?

Night, the future daddy of our future babies. Get well soon ya, Hon. Love you, ganteng.

Semoga "foto kopi Ayah" cepet dateng di rahim aku ya, Hon.

5 Juli 2011

Before I left for work, Beno smiled sheepishly and kissed my belly saying: ”Jadi ya, biar your mommy nggak merengut dan ngomel mulu ke your daddy.”

Gue jewer kupingnya: ”Gendheeeeng!”

6 Juli 2011

Very emotional morning. Jadi nyesel gue beli kaus ”foto kopi Ayah” itu.

Nanti gue ceritain ya, meeting dulu. RT @winasoedarjo: What happened?

@winasoedarjo Pagi ini, waktu gue selesai mandi, Beno udah duduk di atas tempat tidur, menatap gue.

@winasoedarjo I thought, ya udah emang biasa kayak gitu. So I just started getting ready to go to work.

@winasoedarjo Gue tanya dia mau sarapan bareng atau nggak. Dia jawab iya, dengan suara datar.

@winasoedarjo Tiba-tiba dia meluk gue dari belakang. Ini juga biasa, tapi kali ini diem aja.

@winasoedarjo Pas gue ngomong: ”Jangan sekarang ya, Hon, aku udah mau telat ke kan... Dia malah ngomong: ”Maafin aku ya, Alexandra.”

@winasoedarjo I thought, heh? Ngapain minta maaf? I asked him: ”Maaf kenapa, Ben?”

@winasoedarjo Baru dia bilang, dengan suara pelan yang heartbreaking for me: ”Maaf belum bisa menghamili kamu.”

Mau nangis gue dengernya, Win. RT @winasoedarjo: Ya ampun, Beno....

@winasoedarjo Pas dia ngomong begitu, gue langsung balik badan meluk dia balik: ”Ngapain minta maaf, Honey? Kan kamu nggak salah apa-apa. Kita juga baru trying, kan.”

@winasoedarjo Katanya: ”Tapi kamu udah pengen banget, kan?” Gue jawab: ”Pengen, Honey, tapi no hurry, it’ll happen when it happens. Jadi jangan minta maaf, ya.”

@winasoedarjo Abis gue ngomong itu, dia melepaskan pelukan terus ke lemari baju ngambil baby T-shirt tulisan ”foto kopi Ayah” itu, dan nunjukin ke gue.

@winasoedarjo Then he said, mukanya putus asa: ”Aku tau kamu udah pengen banget, Lex, dan aku belum bisa ngasih.”

@winasoedarjo I spent the rest of morning hugging him, kissing him, and telling him that he hasn’t done anything wrong.

@winasoedarjo That I just thought the T-shirt is cute. That I do want a son like him. That we’re trying and it’s okay if I’m not pregnant yet.

@winasoedarjo Yet he said: ”But we’re trying like a dozen times a week and it’s still not working. Salah aku, Lex.”

@winasoedarjo Ya ampun, men and their pride, ya.

@winasoedarjo Padahal gue sering mikir, apa salah gue ya belum berhasil hamil sampai sekarang.

@winasoedarjo But it breaks my heart that he thinks he has disappointed me.

@winasoedarjo Sex is supposed to be fun, but lately when we’re doing it, I often wonder: berhasil nggak ya kali ini?

7 Juli 2011

Aduh, Beno, tadi malem kesakitan. Pagi ini nggak inget sakitnya punggungnya itu.

Yeah, maybe I should stop sleeping in my birthday suit.

Heh! RT @winasoedarjo: Nomor telepon bapaknya si Beno berapa? Biar gue laporin nih kelakuan lo berdua.

Ini ciri-ciri bossless siang-siang. Ngetwit mulu.

I know you're all wondering why Beno—who's totally my opposite and who often has to deal with my high maintenance—wants to marry me.

And probably, 80 percent of my followers think I don't deserve him. Ngaku aja. :)

Banyak! RT @winasoedarjo: Hahaha, masih ada aja followers yang sinis komentar "kok si Beno mau sih sama lo" ya?

I mean, I've been called high maintenance, demanding, keras kepala, nggak bisa hidup susah, can't cook, and a whole lot more.

Hell, sometimes when he's being really nice and does something for me unexpectedly, I ask myself: "Do I really deserve this guy?"

Jawabannya akhirnya gue dapat pada hari gue ijab kabul lagi dengan dia. Dari Riza yang ngomong ke Wina dan Wina dengan bocornya cerita ke gue.

Waktu Beno mulai deketin gue lagi, Riza nanya ke dia: "Ngapain sih lo? Yakin lo mau lagi sama dia secara dia udah ninggalin lo gitu?"

Kata Wina (dari Riza), Beno jawab begini—of course—pake bullet points.

Beno answered: ”1. Gue sayang dia, 2. Cuma dia yang mengerti gue, 3. Dia takes care gue.”

Now everytime I’m angry at him and can’t stand him for some reason, I remind my self of those 3 sweet bullet points.

Can’t wait until the little version of him is growing inside of me.

If it’s a baby girl, it’s a part of him too. Pretty sure it’s gonna be daddy’s little girl.

Yang manja banget sama daddy-nya, yang daddy-nya nggak bisa nolak permintaannya.

I’m beginning to be a little more sentimental than I should. Better sleep now.

8 Juli 2011

Gue akan selalu ingat tanggal 8 Juli ini sampai kapan pun. This date has historical value for me and the husband.

Honestly, the first time he kissed me in the kitchen dan ”nembak” gue dengan muka lempeng dan kata-kata kakunya itu, gue belum cinta.

Gue baru sayang aja, and wanted to see where that was leading to.

And honestly, awal-awal pacaran sama si Beno ini agak aneh, he’s a very quiet guy. Dia kan nggak pinter ngomong manis sama sekali.

Tiap dinner: dia diem senyum-senyum dengerin gue cerita. Tiap hang out juga gitu. Cuma terasa bahwa kami lagi pacaran itu kalo kami lagi ehm make out.

There's no warmth coming from him. Apalagi suka ngilang-ngilang sibuk dengan RS-nya itu. Jadi di awal-awal itu, we saw each other probably once a week.

One text a day nanya kabar. That's it. Tapi kalau lagi pacaran day, he'll be with me dari sarapan sampe malem. Once a week.

Sementara with other men that I have dated before, I was showered with attention every day, either lewat ketemuan, text, phone call.

Sampe gue mikir, si Beno ini beneran sayang nggak sih?

Btw, ini back when we were dating before our first marriage, ya. Pas pacaran lagi sebelum pernikahan kedua sih udah beda sama sekali.

Tapi karena dia baik, nggak macem-macem, he means what he says and he says what he means, dan ehm ganteng, ya udah I'm giving this relationship a chance.

Then 8 Juli, 5 tahun yang lalu, when we just started dating 3 weeks, I had food poisoning.

Setelah gue telepon, dia langsung datang ke apartemen gue, dan akhirnya memutuskan bawa gue ke emergency room RS-nya.

The minute we got into the ER, perawat dan dokter jaganya langsung heboh ngurus gue.

Dengan pandangan bertanya-tanya: Gue ini siapanya Beno? They knew he's been single for a while.

Dan Beno dengan cueknya, sementara gue diinfus cairan, tanpa bicara narik gue ke pelukannya biar nyandar ke dadanya.

Gue yang jadi kikuk karena sadar orang-orang di ER itu pada melirik.

Puncaknya waktu salah seorang suster senior nanya Beno: ”Maaf, Dok, keluarganya?”

Nanyanya waktu Beno mengisi formulir data pasien and put his name as my emergency contact.

Gue tiduran di ranjang ER jaraknya cuma 3 meteran dari counter tempat dia ngisi form, jadi percakapannya kedengeran.

You know how he answered that question? He said with his signature flat tone: ”Calon istri saya.”

Suster-suster itu langsung diem. Dan gue sukses keseleg ludah sendiri. 3 weeks dating, damn!

Dalam perjalanan pulang, gue diem nggak tahu mau ngomong apa, dia juga diem lempeng nyetir.

Sampai kami udah dekat apartemen gue, dia ngomong: ”Lex, maaf ya tadi aku lancang bilang kamu calon istriku. Biar suster-suster itu nggak penasaran lagi. Nggak apa-apa kan, Lex?”

I didn’t know what to say so I just nodded.

Him: (catet ini ngomongnya dengan muka datar, suara datar sambil nyetir) ”Tapi aku nggak asal waktu bilang kamu itu calon istriku.”

Him: ”Aku memulai hubungan dengan kamu ini dengan tujuan serius, jadi yang aku bilang tadi bukan sekadar untuk bikin diem suster-suster di RS aja, ya.”

Damn, gue diomongin begitu dalam keadaan masih lemes demam ya bingung mau ngomong apa, jadi gue cuma menjawab lirih: Iya, Ben, ngerti.

Starting that night, selama 2 malam penuh, 2x24 jam, he stayed with me in the apartment nemenin gue dan took care of me. Dia cuti dari RS.

Dalam keadaan gue nggak mandi seharian, udah jelek banget pokoknya, dia masih aja meluk-meluk gue, nyium gue, saying: ”Yang cepet sembuhnya ya, Sayang.”

Itu pertama kalinya dia manggil gue Sayang, by the way. And it felt like... damn I can’t even say it with words.

The 48 hours that he made me fall in love with him head over heels like I never loved anybody before.

And the 48 hours that I know he really loves me, despite his inability to say it like any other men.

You know now why I just can’t get over this guy, right?

8th of July. The night when I realized: Buset, I think I’m really in love with this one.

You know, I used to have this principle that I wasn’t gonna fall in love easily. Test the guy first.

After that night, persetan dengan prinsip itu. Habis-habisan gue tunjukin sayang bangetnya gue ke dia.

He did too. We were madly in love, got married within months, and got divorced after 3 years.

The story of my life.

9 Juli 2011

Love this quote! RT @RiriJayantee: cocok buat lo dan Beno > ”@paulocoelho: If we are in love, we are making love all the time, even when we’re not.”

The husband told me a very good news this morning. Dia ditawari jadi head of surgery di sebuah RS swasta baru di Karawaci. So proud of him!

Pros: more money.

Pros yg lain buat gue: less surgery, he'll do mostly managing, jadi nggak ada lagi on-call emergency sampe malem.

More time for me.

Beno rejected it, by the way. Gue bengong.

Nolaknya nggak pake ngobrol ke gue dulu, lagi. Shouldn't we make this kind of decision together?

Tapi gue terdiam waktu dia jelasin alasannya.

Dia bilang: "Aku jadi dokter biar bisa nolong orang dengan expertise aku, Lex, bukan buat ngurusin dokter lain. Jadi kamu mengerti kan kenapa aku tolak?"

Since he has practically made the decision by himself, and not talking to me first, ya udah gue ngangguk aja.

Honestly, I wanted him to take the job.

Sumpah, bukan karena alasan more money.

I assume that if he's the head of surgery, he has more control of his surgery schedule. Nggak perlu sampe malem-malem lagi kayak sekarang.

I just want him to spend more time at home. Kasian melihat dia bedah orang berjam-jam sampe malem tiap hari.

Lebih susah jadi istri laki-laki yang nggak kamu cintai, apa pun profesinya :) "@fristans: Susah mana jadi istri VP bank atau jadi istri surgeon? Kan sama-sama sibuk :D"

10 Juli 2011

Spent this morning at Bapak Mertua's hospital because Beno woke up with an agonizing pain in his back.

And Beno spent this morning diomelin his doctor slash bapaknya sendiri.

The bapak mertua said to him: "I will personally chain you to the bed if you don't follow instructions. So listen to me, and listen to your wife."

This time really puasa for 30 days. This guy sleeping in the car next to me is not happy.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Makanya, Lex, kalau tidur pake baju dong, jadi laki lo kan teguh menjalani "puasa"-nya.

@winasoedarjo Hahaha, dodol! Ini bukan cuma tentang itu. Dia kan masih bandel suka aktif bedah di RS padahal harusnya nggak boleh dulu.

11 Juli 2011

We're both each other's reason to come home. That's all that matters.

This morning when I told him that I just got my period, he hugged me and kissed my forehead and said: "Bulan depan kita coba lagi. ya."

I said: "Kamu nggak apa-apa, kan? I know how much you want this." Dia cuma senyum: "Nggak apa-apa, kan jadi sempat nabung untuk ngidam aneh-anehnya kamu."

I laughed. I'm so relieved that he's now more relaxed in dealing with this.

13 Juli 2011

Some men are blessed with this ability to make you caught in awe when you're with him alone in the elevator and he said, "Apa kabar?"

That man is my managing director. Kharismanya dahsyat.

Senyum charming-nya itu lho, dijamin bikin klepek-klepek.

Anyway, tadi di lift gue langsung speechless pas beliau nanya basa-basi dengan senyumnya itu: "Sudah lama pake Range Rover, Alexandra?"

I answered, senyum sesantun mungkin: "Bukan punya saya, Pak, suami saya. Kadang-kadang aja saya pakai."

Then he smiled back: "Your husband has a great taste."

Ini maksudnya memuji selera laki gue ke mobil kan, bukan ke milih istri? Hahaha, udah gila gue.

Come to think of it, Beno Wicaksono itu sama sekali nggak charming tapi kok bisa bikin gue klepek-klepek mampus ya?

Suka ngabsen, lagi. Nanya "kamu di mana" bisa 5 kali sehari.

He just BBM-ed me this a minute ago: "Kamu di mana?" I playfully answered: "Di hati kamu, Hon, nggak kerasa?"

And his answer was...

"Aku nanya serius, Alexandra. Kamu di mana?"

Flat.

Ya kayaknya nggak mungkin juga gue mengharap dia jawab: "Kerasa banget, Sayang, nggak bisa berhenti mikirin kamu dari tadi."

Gue yang pingsan kaget kalau dia jawab begitu, hehehe.

14 Juli 2011

What does your alarm do when it's time for you to wake up? Make noises? Mine kisses me on my neck ;)

A breakfast meeting with a CFO of an oil company this meeting. He's German and the only German words I know is Paulaner Bräuhaus.

Breakfast meeting done. Busy day is waiting ahead.

I was wondering kenapa laki gue belum BBM ngabsen dari pagi, ternyata ya ternyata I checked with his assistant: he's in surgery. Bandel!

Nggak sadar lagi sakit dan nggak boleh capek ya orang ini.

Just told his doctor—his own dad—that he's performing surgery. Nggak sanggup gue marah-marahinnya lagi. Biar bapaknya sendiri aja deh yang ngomelin.

@winasoedarjo Aduh, Wina, bandelnya si Beno ini. Gue barusan berantem lagi dong sama dia. Masa barusan dia nelepon gue marah-marah: "Ngapain sih kamu pakai cerita ke Bapak kalau aku bedah hari ini?"

Menurut lo??? RT @winasoedarjo: Dia marah karena lo cek-cek?

@winasoedarjo Orang ini ya, nggak sadar gue begitu untuk kebaikan dia, malah ngomel-ngomel terus: "Ngapain juga kamu ngecek-ngecek ke rumah sakit aku ngebedah apa nggak? Masalah di rumah sakit itu masalah aku, bukan kamu."

@winasoedarjo I got angry, he got angry, huge argument on the phone, langsung gue putusin aja teleponnya pas dia ngomong: "Kamu nggak usah deh ngurusin pekerjaan aku."

Fine, take care of yourself from now on, surgeon boy.

Udah di rumah, lagi bubble bath gue. Lo nelepon ke iPhone, ya? Lagi gue charge. RT @winasoedarjo: Lex, sori gue baru liat Twitter lagi. Lo di mana, gue telepon nggak bisa-bisa?

Tuh lagi fisioterapi. Gue males nemeninnya. RT @winasoedarjo: Laki lo udah pulang? Masih marah-marah nggak?

Kampret, hehehe. Ntar ah, biarin dia mikir sendiri dulu. Gue too tired to talk juga, just wanna sleep after this. RT @winasoedarjo: Ditemenin dong, Lex, lagi sakit gitu. Kalau males dengar dia ngomel, plester aja.

@winasoedarjo Ini gue keluar kamar ngambil minum di dapur, Beno sedang meringis megang punggungnya sambil nonton TV di ruang tengah.

Gue juga nggak sampai hati, Win, but he needs to learn that he is really sick and that's why he can't perform surgery yet. RT @winasoedarjo: Peluk-peluk gih sana. Kasian tau, Lex.

15 Juli 2011

This morning, I left him a Post-it on his chest while he's still sleeping.

It says: Ben, dulu kamu bilang apa pun yang aku minta di Post-it ini, kamu akan nurut, kan? Aku minta kamu nggak bedah dan nggak capek-capek sampai sembuh, ya.

Slow morning at the office, no meeting scheduled until later on after lunch.

Yuk, tapi di PP aja bisa nggak lo? Gue ada meeting jam setengah 2 soalnya. RT @winasoedarjo: Lunch bareng yuk!

Hahaha, udah! RT @winasoedarjo: Oke, jam 12-an ya. Btw, udah baikan belum sama laki lo? Gue males kalau lunch ntar isinya lo ngomel-ngomel mulu tentang dia.

16 Juli 2011

Leyeh-leyeh in bed watching Bradley Cooper's *Limitless*. I want this pill! Ada yang udah nonton?

Beno would rock this pill!

Here's a little confession: since the day I met and knew Beno, I've always been a little bit intimidated by his brain.

Not that I think I'm stupid. It's just that... Well, I don't understand what he's talking about half the time.

Sometimes I wonder if he wonders "I wish I could talk about this thing with my wife and bounce ideas with her."

LOL you have an interesting point of view. "@yunifitria_: Don't be, you are smarter because you make him go crazy over you ;p"

Don't mind me, just some random thoughts I had in my head tonight.

17 Juli 2011

Breakfast whilst watching Jennifer Lopez's *Enough* on KIX. Perfect example why women should be financially independent from the husbands.

Honestly, gue lebih bisa menolerir laki-laki yang selingkuh daripada laki-laki yang mukul perempuan, walaupun dua-duanya sama-sama bencong.

This guy is touching his lower back again. I'm worried.

Who has wine with 4 Fingers chicken wings? Apparently, we do.

Okay, I better stop tweeting for a while. Sensing some drunktwits coming up and I don't wanna embarrass myself.

Two thousand people following my life? Weird.

Lazy Sunday afternoon in bed. There's no other place I'd rather be right now.

Well, maybe Senayan City if Bottega Veneta is having a big sale. But for now, this.

Life is good. I might be a lil bit intoxicated when I say this, but life is G-o-o-d. With a capital G.

Hubby passed out next to me. Full, a lil bit intoxicated, and fulfilled. Me? I'm half awake trying to sober myself to drive later.

Ah, Ben, why did we waste 3 years of our life hating each other when we could be doing this?

Married couples should fuck more. It's liberating.

Oh shit. Sorry. Blame the wine.

Fitnah! RT @winasoedarjo: Nyet, I know how chatty you are when you're drunk, get off Twitter now before you twit something you'll regret later.

By the way this year would be the first Ramadhan for us since we got married again.

The best part about bulan puasa? Dia nggak pernah lama-lama di RS, selalu ngusahain buka di rumah.

Semoga berkah bulan puasa buat gue tahun ini: mengandung little Beno inside of me.

18 Juli 2011

Loan committee meeting ☑ And that's another 150 billion to my portfolio. Awesome!

19 Juli 2011

Awww, I want a baby, she's so cute! RT @victoriabeckham: Mummy's little angel! X VB x twitpic.com/5s2qq5

I love how they named their kids: Brooklyn, Romeo, Cruz, Harper Seven :) "@graynata: Pretty face but unfortunately with a weird name :p"

My first baby nanti akan jadi cucu pertama both from my and Beno's side (namanya juga gue dan Beno sama-sama anak tunggal). Boy, that's gonna be a lot of people wanting to name our baby.

I guess 7 is fine. But 6 or 9 would be disastrous ;) "@graynata: I love the boys name, but "Seven" can give the girl some bad time :p"

Victoria Beckham anaknya udah empat aja, Alexandra Wicaksono got knocked up pun belum.

Btw, we're going to see my obgyn as soon as Beno returns from Singapore. Yeah, he's been there since yesterday for some cardiology convention.

My obgyn is also a fertility specialist. We just wanna check again that we're both fine.

Would be devastated if there's something wrong with me or Beno that we can't conceive.

Awalnya lucu ngeliat Beno kissing my belly everytime after we did it and him saying: "Berenang yang bener, ya."

Lama-lama gue jadi sedih kalau nggak hamil-hamil juga.

20 Juli 2011

Meetings. Meetings. Meetings. Boring. Boring. Boring. Yet money. Money. Money.

I wonder what other job would suit me other than being a banker. Menurut lo apa?

A chef? Definitely no. A doctor? Aduh nggak sanggup belajarnya.

Hahaha tae lo emang!! RT @winasoedarjo: Jadi model *Playboy* aja, duitnya lebih lumayan daripada jadi banker.

Kebayang sih, lo kan tengil nyebelin gitu. RT @winasoedarjo: Sometimes I wish I were Miranda Priestley. Strutting Prada and Hermes everywhere.

Adriana Lima. Ya karena lima udah ada, gue Adriana Enam aja deh. RT @winasoedarjo: Hahaha monyet! Emang lo suka mimpi jadi siapa?

Hahaha kan namanya mimpi, suka-suka dong. Iya meeting ini bangke banget, bosen gue. RT @winasoedarjo: Ngarep!!! Tweeting mulu lo, nggak sibuk?

Yay, got a 4-day trip to Tokyo next week for on-the-spot.

My client is buying a couple of ships and the ships are currently docking there, so gotta be there to witness the whole deal.

Just called the husband about the Tokyo trip. Oleh-oleh wajib buat dia tiap gue balik dari Jepang: Kit Kat in many flavors. My husband got sweet teeth!

I hate how Malinda Dee merusak citra banker perempuan.

Just a random afternoon thought.

Males gue dengan tatapan orang-orang (bukan department gue, other floors) yang biasanya parkir deket-dekat mobil gue sejak gue bawa Range Rover-nya si Beno ini.

Tatapan: "dari-mana-lo-sanggup-beli-mobil-begitu? Kayak-gue-nggak-tau-gaji-lo-berapaan-aja". Prett.

Salah satu penyakit orang Indonesia: suka ngurusin harta dan rezeki orang.

Beno just got home from Singapore a minute ago, "attacked" me a lil bit on the couch then he said: "Aku mau mandi, setelah aku kelar mandi BlackBerry kamu aku sita, ya."

So this is serious, no more BB and other gadgets at night?

22 Juli 2011

You know what happened this morning? Begitu gue keluar dari kamar mandi selesai shower, Beno udah bangun.

Gue keluar, dia masuk. Waktu dia mandi, BB-nya bunyi. I looked at it and it's Santy—his assistant—on the caller ID.

Gue angkat dong teleponnya. Guess what Santy said. Beno has a scheduled surgery this morning at 9 AM! Pantes bangunnya pagi.

@winasoedarjo Darah gue naik semua ke kepala saking emosinya, Win. Gue samperin ke shower dan langsung gue bentak di situ.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Oh, God, Lex, masa berantem lagi sih?

@winasoedarjo Berantem beneran kali ini. Saking kencengnya, kali kedengeran ke tetangga sebelah apartemen.

@winasoedarjo Then Beno said: ”Udah deh, Lex, kamu nggak ngerti ini urusan aku sebagai dokter, nggak usah ikut campur. Aku ini sehat, kamu nggak ngerti nggak usah ikut campur.”

@winasoedarjo Waktu dia ngomong gitu, emosi gue sampai ke ubun-ubun dan gue nggak tahan lagi, so I cried.

@winasoedarjo Whilst crying, I said to him: ”Iya, Ben, istri kamu ini memang bego karena nggak ngerti pentingnya dan hebatnya pekerjaan kamu sebagai dokter...

@winasoedarjo ...Tapi kamu ngerti nggak kenapa aku sampai nangis begini? Aku nggak kuat, Ben, ngeliat kamu kesakitan tiap hari nggak sembuh-sembuh. Kamu ngerti nggak?”

@winasoedarjo Gue bilang bahwa gue cuma pengen dia sembuh. Bapaknya yang juga dokternya itu ngasih aturan kan supaya dia sembuh, diikutin aja kenapa.

@winasoedarjo Gue bilang: ”Ini aku udah sabar, Ben, kita nggak bisa ngapa-ngapain sebulan. Kenapa kamu nggak bisa nahan diri juga untuk ngikutin aturan? Nggak usah bedah dulu ya diikutin, Ben.”

@winasoedarjo Saking emosinya gue ngomong ini: ”Kamu mau kalau punggung kamu makin parah terus bisa lumpuh?” Him: ”Mulai berlebihan kan kamu? Makanya nggak ngerti nggak usah larang-larang, nggak ada efeknya gitu.”

@winasoedarjo I couldn’t stop crying. I said: ”Iya memang aku tolol jadi nggak ngerti apa-apa, Ben. Jadi ya udah deh, terserah kamu aja mulai sekarang.”

Capek beneran gue, Win. RT @winasoedarjo: Ya ampun, Darl, don’t say that...

@winasoedarjo Gue bilang ke dia: ”Aku cuma mau kamu tau kalau aku nangis begini karena khawatir banget sama kamu, Ben. Tapi ya udah deh karena kata kamu, aku nggak ngerti apa-apa.”

I think I might bring Mbok with me to spend the night at Kebagusan tonight.

Just called the Mbok to pack the clothes. Don’t know if I’m gonna do it yet, but just to be prepared.

In the car. On the way to Kebagusan. Mbok and Ahmed in the front seat. Me in the backseat with silent tears.

Capek gue, Win, mikirin dia terus tapi dia nggak mikirin dirinya sendiri. RT @winasoedarjo: Darl, masa kabur-kaburan lagi sih? Diomongin aja lagi baik-baik.

@winasoedarjo Ini bukan kabur, Win. Ini gue ngasih dia kesempatan untuk mikir sendiri kenapa gue selama ini suka melarang-larang dia.

@winasoedarjo Tadi waktu gue pulang, Beno udah duduk di ruang tengah dan langsung ngomong, dengan muka datarnya: ”Itu traveling bag buat apa?”

@winasoedarjo Dia masih duduk di sofa menatap tajam ke gue: ”Mau kabur lagi ke Kebagusan? Karena kita berantem tadi pagi, terus mau kabur lagi? Gitu?”

@winasoedarjo Langsung gue balas aja: ”Kok kamu jadi nuduh-nuduh sih? Bukannya harusnya aku yang marah ke kamu karena hari ini aku tau kamu udah bedah orang lagi? Nggak sadar sakit kamu ya.”

@winasoedarjo Malah dia yang marah: ”Nggak usah ngurusin yang itu. Aku udah bilang kamu nggak ngerti. Sekarang aku tanya lagi ya, itu tas buat apa? Mau kabur?”

@winasoedarjo Panas banget gue denger dia ngomong ”kamu nggak ngerti” itu berkali-kali dari pagi. Jadi gue sambar: ”Aku malam ini mau tidur di Kebagusan. Pusing di sini.”

@winasoedarjo You know what he said next that really made me leave?

@winasoedarjo Him: ”Jadi seumur hidup aku bakal kayak ini ya, Lex. Kita ada masalah, kamu kabur, aku nyusul. Kamu kabur, aku nyusul. Kapan dewasanya sih kamu?”

@winasoedarjo Gue udah males banget menanggapinya, jadi gue ngomong ini aja: ”Ben, udah deh, aku males dengerin kamu lagi.”

@winasoedarjo Then he said dengan suara tenangnya, menatap gue tajam: ”Aku juga lama-lama bisa malas nyusul kamu.”

@winasoedarjo ”Kalau udah begitu, kita mau jadi apa, Lex? Jadi sekarang aku mau mandi. Kamu jangan kayak anak-anak deh, tenangin diri aja. Nggak perlu kabur-kabur.”

@winasoedarjo ”Kalau kamu merasa harus kabur ke Kebagusan baru bisa tenang, terserah. Aku udah capek, aku pusing. Nggak usah nungguin aku nyusul.”

Gue diem, dia masuk kamar mandi, gue cabut. RT @winasoedarjo: Gue nggak tau mau ngomong apa, Darl. Terus lo cabut aja tadi setelah dia ngomong gitu?

@winasoedarjo Nggak mau nyusul, fine.

@winasoedarjo I can’t stop crying in the car right now and the traffic is shit.

So sick and tired of this shit.

23 Juli 2011

Slept all morning.

Iya nggak apa-apa. Gue silent emang semua HP dari tadi malem. RT @winasoedarjo: Tadi gue nelepon lo 2 kali tapi nggak diangkat, you're okay, kan?

@winasoedarjo Si Beno udah dateng nyusul tadi pagi, Win.

Nggak, aman-aman aja kok. RT @winasoedarjo: Jangan bilang nyusul tapi terus berantem lagi. Lo berdua nggak capek, ya?

@winasoedarjo As far as capek apa nggak... well, I don't know... Gue sebenarnya juga capek begini terus. Berantem, baikan, berantem, baikan, mau sampai kapan?

Yeah, I know. RT @winasoedarjo: I hate to break it to you, Darla, but it's you yourself who can answer that one.

@winasoedarjo Anyway, tadi pas dia datang, gue sedang di poolside. You know what he said when he found me?

@winasoedarjo "Alexandra, nggak seneng ya kalau nggak bikin suaminya nggak tidur semalaman?"

@winasoedarjo He noticed I've been crying. "Mata kamu bengkak begini, nangis dari tadi malam? Takut aku nggak nyusul?...

@winasoedarjo ...Gimana aku mau nggak nyusul kamu, Lex, kalau aku cinta mati sama kamu begini. Jadi udah ya nangisnya."

@winasoedarjo Nyerah gue dengernya.

@winasoedarjo Ini sekarang dia tidur nyenyak banget sambil meluk gue.

@winasoedarjo The emotional roller coaster ride that he puts me through since the first day we met is unbelievable, Win. It's almost unbearable sometimes. I don't know why I let myself endure this.

Scary, right? RT @winasoedarjo: I don't know about you, Darl, but that pretty much sounds like "cinta mati" to me ;)

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw If you look at it from a point of view that you're stuck with this guy forever, yeah it's kinda scary.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw But if you look at it from a point of view that you love this guy so much and he feels the same way, isn't that what everybody wants, Lex? To be stuck for good with the love of their life?

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw You wanna know something? Selama ini, tiap lo datang ke gue dengan cerita masalah lo dengan Beno, bahwa lo abis berantem, abis kabur-kaburan segala macem, sejujurnya gue nggak pernah terlalu khawatir.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Deep down, I always knew that everything will be alright. No matter how much in trouble you both are with each other, somehow I knew that eventually everything will be alright.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Gue orang luar dan gue aja bisa lihat bahwa apa yang lo punya sama Beno itu terlalu kuat untuk digoyahkan sama masalah apa pun yang lo berdua hadapi. Ujung-ujungnya lo berdua pasti balik lagi.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Bukan gue yang ada di dalam hubungan lo berdua, dan gue bisa merasakan kuatnya ikatan di antara lo berdua itu, Lex. Masa lo sendiri nggak?

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw I think I have said this to you before: what matters is that he loves you. And you love him. Fuck everything else.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Masalahnya lo sering nggak tahan dengan kelakuannya, well mungkin dia juga kadang-kadang

merasa yang sama terhadap lo. Yet you both still love each other, right?

@winasoedarjo I get what you're saying, Win. But it's just that... I love him so much that it scares me sometimes.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Why? There's no love that is stronger than being in love with someone you can't stand.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Ada yang bilang being in love with someone is like letting him point a gun to your head and trusting him not to pull the trigger. Do you trust Beno that much?

@winasoedarjo I do.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Then nothing else should matter, right?

24 Juli 2011

Okay, officially my first business trip with Beno tagging along. Bos gue bakal bengong di bandara besok.

Control freak, overprotective beneran. His words: "Kalau kamu nggak bisa dilarang pergi (he just heard about the quake in Japan), aku ikut."

Si Beno ini kadang-kadang kayak money grows on tree aja.

25 Juli 2011

Touchdown Narita. Exhausted. Next > immigration.

Bringing the husband on a business trip: kinda weird.

Kedua SVP gue ini tadi agak-agak bingung dan sedikit bengong pas ketemu gue udah bareng Beno di airport lounge subuh tadi.

Alasan yang udah disiapkan: Beno ada urusan dengan RS jantung di sini dan dia ubah jadwalnya ikut jadwal gue.

Anyway, imigrasi kelar. Now waiting for the airport limo bus that'll take us from Narita to Tokyo Park Hyatt in Shinjuku.

I hope he doesn't complain that I can't spend much time with him while we're here. My schedule is full until 7ish every evening.

When I asked him that on the plane, he said: "Nggak apa-apa, kan aku bisa tidur, baca, nonton TV, muter-muter, makan, tidur..."

I laughed when he said "tidur" twice. Ketauan banget hobinya molor.

Then he said (dengan muka datar kayak biasanya): "Tapi jangan kemaleman balik ke hotelnya ya, masa kita nggak sempat pacaran di Jepang."

To which I answered: "Injih, Mas Beno." Dia mengernyitkan dahi: "Nggak cocok banget kamu ngomongnya gitu."

I laughed.

26 Juli 2011

Meetings. Meetings. Meetings!

Love love love our conversation over dinner. I never knew Tokyo could be romantic.

And this guy, after 6 years of knowing me, still blushed when I kissed him in the restaurant.

If only we're here on vacation, we'd stay up all night.

Alas, my day starts early tomorrow. Gonna call it a night.

27 Juli 2011

Today's meeting is with the Fujitsu people at Minato, then with the people from Mizuho Bank to discuss syndication deal.

I noticed Beno touching his back tadi. Me: "Honey, punggungnya sakit? Him: "Nggak apa-apa, pegel dikit aja."

Kalau dia kenapa-kenapa di sini, bisa bingung gue nyari dokternya.

28 Juli 2011

Ginza! *akhirnya berhasil dragging Beno ke sini*

Uniqlo, Mikimoto, Melsa, Furla, kalap!!

Our flight details today: SQ11 NRT20:50, landed at SIN 03:05. Then SQ952 leaving SIN 07:40, arriving at CGK 08:25.

Anyway, we're boarding now. Twit you later, ya.

29 Juli 2011

Berangkat ke rumah sakit bapak mertua. Praying for good news. This fasting period is killing both of us.

Macet kampret aja ini dari Kebagusan ke Kuningan! Jakarta effing Friday traffic!

Waiting for Beno's MRI.

By the way, pasien-pasiennya bapak mertua ini semuanya udah tua-tua dan rata-rata post-stroke, laki gue doang yang cakep *iseng sambil nunggu*

One more week. Not so bad, right, Hon?

My hero right here is recovering well, the bapak mertua said. Lega banget dengernya.

Just one more week and we're back to normal.

30 Juli 2011

I sleep with a doctor every night yet I'm always nervous when I'm at the doctor's office. Waiting for my obgyn now.

So keywords hasil konsultasi hari ini: 1. We worry too much, 2. Keep trying. Okay then, doc.

Molor gue pun bubar karena kedatangan Wina. Untung bawa pempek Megaria. *laper*

Aww, so cute, Latizia—anaknya Wina—bawain Beard Papa buat laki gue.

Beno langsung melunak dan mukanya nggak lempeng lagi lho kalau sama Tiz. I love watching him answering Tiz's funny questions.

One time Beno ngajarin Tiz main Angry Birds, Tiz nanya: "Angry Birds itu kan burung-burung marah ya, Oom? Kenapa marah?"

Then "Kok burungnya diketapel? Kasian kan, Oom" then "Kok piggy-nya warna ijo?" Gue senyum-senyum aja melihat Beno mengarang bebas jawabnya.

Kapan ya tiny T-shirt yg "foto kopi ayah" itu bisa gue pakein ke anak gue sendiri?

Wina's advice just now: "Lo ama laki lo itu kecapekan, sibuk mulu, gimana mau jadi. Coba nggak usah capek-capek dulu deh di kantor, si Beno juga."

Wina: "Nih elus-elus perut gue aja, kali nular." Me: "Udah gila."

Wina, Riza, dan Tiz barusan pulang karena Tiz mulai rewel ngantuk. Kadang pengen minjem Tiz satu malam untuk menginap bareng gue dan Beno.

I feel like dressing up and going out, Bapak Beno feels like staying in and reading in bed.

He said: ”Ngapain keluar, macet-macet. Paling kamu mau hang out ngobrol, kan? Di rumah aja. Kalau mau dress up ya dress up aja, aku yang liat di rumah.”

Speechless gue.

Eh btw, menjelang puasa, maafkan kalau gue ada ngetwit yg kurang berkenan, ya. I’m a bitch at heart, what can I say hehe.

1 Agustus 2011

How’s your first day at work this fasting month? Me: ngantuk to the max.

Satu hal yang gue suka dari bulan puasa (sejak our first marriage): Beno selalu pulang cepat biar buka di rumah.

2 Agustus 2011

Pagi ini diawali dengan Bapak Beno ngomel-ngomel—walau nggak separah biasanya karena sedang puasa—karena gue harus menghadiri acara buka puasa dengan nasabah nanti sore.

Bete gue pagi-pagi diceramahi dengan kata-kata ”bulan puasa itu untuk keluarga bukan untuk nasabah blablablablablabla.”

Berisik! RT @winasoedarjo: Neng, kan lo yang udah memilih menikah lagi dengan dia, diterima dong sifatnya emang gitu :p

I was wondering, kalau buka puasa nggak di rumah, which resto/ place is your choice?

My favorite place with Beno: Seribu Rasa dan Bebek Bengil, dua-duanya di daerah Plaza Gani Jemat Imam Bonjol situ.

The most pathetic place untuk buka puasa: di meja kantor, sendirian, menatap jalanan Jakarta dari jendela. Been there, done that.

Felt like a sad workaholic who finally understands that money doesn't buy happiness.

Is it weird that driving Beno's car makes me feel sexier?

Home. Bubble bath. My personal heaven. I can't remember how many times I've tweeted this and it's still true.

So effing tired.

4 Agustus 2011

Did the testpack.

One line. It's negative.

I showed that to him and out of nowhere I felt tears were running down my cheek.

His most heartbreaking words as he hugged me tadi: "Maaf ya, Yang, belum bisa bikin kamu hamil."

Gue, kali yang harusnya merasa bersalah karena rahim gue "belum mau menerima" benihnya dia.

Decided to just skip work today. Not feeling well. Emotionally at least.

I BBM-ed him: ”Hon, can we go out tonight?” Him: ”Nggak.” Me: ”Honey, aku bilang ke mana juga belum kok langsung ditolak.”

Him: ”Ke mana pun nggak, istirahat aja ya.” Me: ”Bosen, Hon.” Him: ”Ini kan mainannya udah di jalan pulang, masih bosen?”

I laughed when Beno refers to himself as my toy.

My toy is home ;)

6 Agustus 2011

On our way to the mertua’s house now. Final check on Beno’s back.

First true, wide, bright smile from Beno is just now, when the bapak mertua said he’s fine. Totally fine.

Second big smile: right now, as he’s back driving his Range Rover. I teased him: ”Seneng banget tuh bisa nyetir lagi.”

On our way to Kebagusan now, he’s driving. Gonna spend the whole weekend there.

Water, ta’jil, a kiss on my lips then my forehead from him ”Selamat buka ya, Sayang,” sholat, main course.

Nobody does buka puasa like us. :)

On our way to a midnight date at Bakmi Lungkee Menteng.

7 Agustus 2011

What I love about us when we can’t do anything but talk is that we talk.

I get to listen to his thoughts and he gets to listen to mine and learn that despite our differences yang kayak bumi dan langit itu, we work.

By the way, lo tau nggak game Wii favorit laki gue itu sekarang apa? Guitar Hero. *geleng-geleng kepala*

Gue senyum-senyum sendiri aja ngeliat dia main Guitar Hero, lagaknya udah kayak gitaris apa gitu. He can't play real guitar, by the way.

8 Agustus 2011

This fasting month, I started this habit of making him a meal box and put it in his car. Isinya kurma, bottled water, sandwich.

Supaya kalau terjebak macet di jalan pas buka, dia bisa buka di mobil.

Just a simple thing that I do as a wife :)

I might not be the most ideal wife you know. I'm busy at work, I can't cook, I travel a lot for work, and many more.

Satu hal yang gue pegang: jangan sampai Beno merasa nggak diurus istri.

Yang ngomong ini istri yang nggak bisa masak, nggak bisa nyuci, nggak bisa nyetrika, nggak bisa ngurus rumah LOL.

10 Agustus 2011

Semoga memaki-maki dalam hati tidak membatalkan puasa *cursing at the traffic at Semanggi*

Jakarta traffic is not healthy for human bladder, I tellya.

Yang ganteng pergi taraweh, bininya lagi... ehm... males dan di rumah aja gegoleran.

He’s reading, I am still watching The Style Network. Sometimes I wonder kok bisa ya kita jadi pasangan dengan hobi/kepribadian yang opposite banget ini.

Our only similarities: we love nasgor Sabang and we love doing ”it”. That’s all.

Gara-gara ada yang mention nanya, gue jadi ngabsen persamaan gue dan si Beno ini apa aja. Damn, ternyata cuma itu.

Dan gue cinta mati sama orang ini. Isn’t that crazy? LOL. RT @winasoedarjo: Gue jadi ikut nge-list dalam hati pas lo nge-tweet itu, dan beneran nggak nemu lagi persamaan lo dan Beno hahaha.

Nicely put, Win ;) RT @winasoedarjo: After all, what’s the point with being in love with someone who’s just like us? Itu namanya kayak jatuh cinta sama diri sendiri, narsis :p

11 Agustus 2011

LOL gue dan Beno kan bukan siapa-siapa, ngapain difilmkan. ”@ElisaOlga: Wondering if your marriage life difilmkan. Sophia Latjuba-Jason Tedjasukmana bisa jadi kandidat kuat nggak, ya?”

Jam segini adalah.... jam konsernya Beno dengan Guitar Hero-nya *pasrah*

”Yang, jangan tidur dulu, ya.” He said a minute ago. Dalam hati gue: ya elu cepetan main game-nya!

12 Agustus 2011

Bapak CFO yang bule ngajak gue lunch bareng. Kaget dia pas gue bilang puasa. What, muka gue kurang alim ya?

Well, iya sih.

By the way, I should be getting my period yesterday.

Just bought a couple testpacks at century PP. Baru telat 2 hari sih.

Life is funny. Dulu kalau beli testpack gini, deg-degan jangan sampai positif. Kalau sekarang justru berharap positif.

Ciuman di bawah 5 detik itu tidak membatalkan puasa #fatwabeno

Menyenangkan hati pasangan dengan ikhlas itu wajib hukumnya #fatwabeno

The husband's money is my money, my money is my money #fatwaalex ;)

Gue lagi ketawa-ketawa nih di mobil. Laki gue lagi kumat gelonya dan menyampaikan fatwa-fatwanya dia.

Malam Jumat itu sunnah rasul, malam-malam yang lain itu wajib hukumnya #fatwabeno (laughing out loud to this one).

Berbukalah dengan yang ganteng #fatwaalex

Bininya presiden dikasih bintang karena mendampingi suami? Gue nggak minta apa-apa ikhlas kok mendampingi laki gue ;)

Bubble bath is my sanctuary...

...until Beno knocked on the bathroom and said, "Ikutan dong."

@winasoedarjo Win, gue nyoba testpack barusan karena udah telat 2 hari. Negatif lagi, Win.

Udah. RT @winasoedarjo: Udah ngomong ke Beno, Darl?

Iya. You know, Beno and I are already used to disappointment by now that we said nothing to each other and just hugged. RT @winasoedarjo: Are you okay? Jangan terlalu dipikirin ya, Lex.

Everything will be okay, right? Everything will be okay.

@winasoedarjo Semoga Beno terus sabar dengan gue yang sampai sekarang belum hamil juga ya.

Entahlah, Win, my mind is so messed up right now. RT @winasoedarjo: Darl, jangan mikir ke mana-mana.

@winasoedarjo Well, I think I'm just gonna sleep. Besok gue telepon masalah buka barengnya ya.

13 Agustus 2011

Bukber the hippiest couple in Jakarta: Alex-Beno and Wina-Riza ;) (@ SOCIAL HOUSE w/ 3 others) 4sq.com/n9ZSqG

I love it when Beno starts touching me in the car to distract me from my BlackBerry. While he's driving, I might add ;)

Hahaha, bukaaaan! Si Beno takut gue giring dia ke Bottega lagi "@winasoedarjo: Ooo, jadi ini sebabnya buru-buru pulang? Nggak sabar mau 'pacaran'?"

Ah home sweet home. Have a great Saturday night, y'all!

14 Agustus 2011

Woke up with the definite sign that I'm breaking my fast and that I'm not pregnant.

Better luck next time, I guess.

There's nothing more to say other than that.

Capeknya nanti menghadapi pertanyaan "Udah isi?" dari semua orang pas Lebaran.

In the kitchen, a bowl of cereal for breakfast, nggak ada suara apa-apa di rumah ini kecuali suara film kartun di TV ruang tengah.

I imagine that in many other houses, they've got little kids laughing to the cartoon right now. Not in this house.

Beno kebangun dan nyari gue ke dapur. ''Kok makan? Nggak puasa, Lex?''

Dan dia terdiam waktu gue bilang: "Just got my period this morning, Hon."

Beno pernah bilang bahwa hal-hal yang harus kita hadapi dalam hidup ini ada 2: the things within our control, and the things we can't control.

"Untuk hal-hal yang bisa kita kendalikan, kita harus ambil kendali, Lex, harus usaha...

...Tapi nggak usah menghabiskan waktu, pikiran, dan hati untuk berusaha mengendalikan hal-hal yang memang nggak bisa kita kendalikan...

...Contoh, bahwa kamu suka belanja, aku kan nggak bisa kendaliin." I laughed when he said that.

"Tapi yang bisa aku kendaliin adalah gimana perasaan aku terhadap hobi kamu itu, kan. Ya daripada aku pusing, mending mikir gini...

...Alhamdulillah aku masih dikasih rezeki untuk bikin kamu seneng. Alhamdulillah aku punya istri yang selalu jaga penampilan untuk bikin aku seneng."

His simple philosophies in life leave me speechless sometimes.

Then he said this. "What we can control is our effort, Lex. What we can't is the result, because it's part from our efforts, part destiny...

...Jadi ya usaha kita lakukan, mudah-mudahan kalau usahanya bener-bener ikhlas, hasilnya sesuai takdir itu juga bagus."

Maybe that's why I'm destined to have a husband who's 8 years older. So his wisdom can keep me grounded and he calmly deal with my impatience.

15 Agustus 2011

Hari ini ada bukber alumni ANU. Pergi nggak ya?

Iyaaaaa RT @winasoedarjo: Gue dateng nih, ayo sana cepetan pamit sama laki lo. Pasti seru soalnya.

The bukber tonight is at Kembang Goela di Sudirman. Macet pasti.

Beno is already on his way home untuk buka di rumah seperti biasanya. Maaf nggak ditemenin ya, Ganteng :)

But guess what, tadi dia ngomong gini: "Kamu pulang dari Kembang Goela aku aja yang jemput, Ahmed suruh pulang aja, ya."

Lagi kumat nih baiknya :)

Udah di jalan, macet banget, Nyet! RT @winasoedarjo: Lo di mana? Gue udah nyampe nih.

Really? Jangan sampe dia duduk di sebelah gue, ya! Lo atur pokoknya! RT @winasoedarjo: Buruaaaan! Btw ada Denny lho ;)

Loving Wina for saving a seat next to her, dan Denny jauh-jauh di ujung meja.

Lagi "diceramahin" Bapak Beno Wicaksono di mobil. Twit you later, ya.

Finally home. Setengah jam diceramahin di jalan lumayan juga kuping gue.

jitak Ngomong panjang-lebar tapi ceramah doang ya sama aja! RT @winasoedarjo: Lo itu ya, laki lo jarang ngomong, protes. Ini ngomong panjang-lebar sampai setengah jam, protes.

Beno, Beno. Kadang-kadang nasihatin gue pinter banget tentang ”don’t sweat the small stuff”. Ini masalah ada Denny di bukber aja di-sweat-in. Tiny stuff!!

Tadi diawali dengan ”Kok nggak bilang ada Denny mantan kamu itu?” then ”Kan kamu tau aku nggak suka kamu dekat-dekat dia,” then blablablablabla. RT @winasoedarjo: Hahaha, nasib lo, Nduk. Diomelin apa tadi?

@winasoedarjo Gue males berantem, jd gue iya-iyain aja.

Kayaknya gue bisa dinominasikan menang Nobel Perdamaian atas betapa sabarnya gue menghadapi si Beno dan cemburuannya ini.

Pemenang Nobel Perdamaian itu kalau nggak salah dapat duit sekitar 1 juta dolar juga, kan? Wow, I’m gonna be filthy rich!!

Hahaha, daripada stres sama cemburuannya laki gue ini. RT @winasoedarjo: Ngayal aja terus, Nyet.

16 Agustus 2011

Gue kapan... RT @ELLEmagazine: @HilaryDuff’s expecting and @jessicaalba & Cash Warren welcome baby girl Haven Garner. Congratulations!!

Very hectic at the office today. Jangankan ngetwit, bales BBM laki gue aja hampir nggak sempat.

I love watching the traffic from our bedroom window.

With a cup of darjeeling tea. The TV is on mute, just some jazz on the CD player.

The simplest things in life sometimes mean the most.

Like now, how we love to hang out in bed, the doctor is reading his books I'm watching some random movie on TV.

Our very own definition of winding down after a long day. Kadang kalau lagi capek banget malah nggak pake ngobrol, diem aja.

And we're fine with it. Until one of us says ”tidur yuk” then we go to sleep.

I forgot who said this: ”You're not really a couple until you can enjoy each other's company in silence.”

You know, since we were divorced once, I try to notice and appreciate the simplest things about us.

Simplest things like the fact that out of all the places in this world, every night we choose to be here with each other.

Gue nggak lagi mikirin grand gestures bahwa dia jarang banget bilang ”I love you” atau hal-hal lain yang bisa mendefinisikan seorang laki-laki itu romantis.

Buat gue, bahwa dia tiap malem pulang demi bersama gue, tidur harus meluk gue, nggak perlu dia manis-manis ngomongnya juga gue tau dia sayang banget sama gue.

We don't need to live up to the Hollywood definition of romantic.

17 Agustus 2011

When Beno is reading, he builds walls around him that even I cannot penetrate.

Udah sore, ya? *baru bangun lagi setelah tidur dari jam 1 siang*

Beno ketiduran di sebelah gue masih pakai kacamata dan berkas pasiennya di atas dadanya. My nerd husband.

Buat gue, yg kedua entah kenapa lebih bikin gue terharu RT @graitomoc: Gimana rasanya pas Beno ijab kabul? The 1st and 2nd time.

Waktu yang pertama, yang ada di kepala gue dan Beno itu sama: nggak sabar mau honeymoon aja, hehe.

Ijab kabul yang kedua, gue dan Beno sama-sama membatin: let's not fuck this up for the second time.

18 Agustus 2011

Kantuk gue siang ini hilang setelah si bawel merepet di telepon gara-gara bad habit lakinya.

Hehehe, iya, sabar, Bu Riza, sabaaar, bawaan lahir terima aja. RT @winasoedarjo: Masih sebel gue nih, Lex, sampai ke ubun-ubun!

Bad habits laki gue ya kalau dijadiin bahan berantem, udah berantem tiap hari, kali.

He never picks up after himself, semua pakaian, sepatu, kaus kaki dilempar gitu aja di lantai kalau pulang dari mana pun.

Everytime he finished taking a shower, he threw the towel on the floor.

Udah capek gue ngomelnya bertahun-tahun dari pernikahan pertama dulu sampai sekarang, nggak berubah-ubah, gue pasrah aja jadi tukang pungut.

Oh my God... RT @tariamandani: My dad does that too. And I guess my mom's been a "tukang pungut" for 26 years? That habit won't go :p

Beno’s ritual the night before a big surgery is usually this: dinner, do something fun or relaxing, sleep early, tahajud at 1 AM, sleep again.

Besok malam itu dia operasi memisahkan bayi kembar siam yang dempet di dada. Mudah-mudahan lancar ya.

Karena gue nggak mengerti sama sekali pekerjaannya Beno gimana, the best thing I can do as a wife is to give him any support that he needs, emotionally.

19 Agustus 2011

Three hours before my husband’s surgery and I’m the one who’s nervous.

Baru ngobrol 10 menit ybs udah nggak bisa diganggu lagi. Good luck, Honey, I believe with all my heart that you can do it :)

20 Agustus 2011

Saturday. Decided to go to his hospital to surprise him after his all-night long surgery.

Operasinya udah selesai, alhamdulillah kedua bayinya hidup tapi masih kritis. Ini Beno lagi tidur pules di pangkuan gue di sofa ruangannya.

A very emotional thing, you know, seeing the twins and their parents.

Beno introduced me as his wife. The twins’ parents asked us: ”Anaknya sudah berapa?”

Perih rasanya mau jawab itu. Yet I smiled: ”Belum ada, masih usaha.”

The twins’ mom said: ”Saya doakan, Dok, Bu, biar cepet dapet. Kami utang nyawa anak kami sama Dokter, pasti Dokter nanti juga dibalas Tuhan dengan yang terbaik.”

I remember Beno stroking my back when the twins’ mom said that. I know we’re both saying ”amin” wholeheartedly inside our head.

Beno selalu bilang ke gue: ”Mungkin ini pelajaran bersabar yang lagi dikasih Tuhan sama kita berdua, Lex.”

21 Agustus 2011

Loving all my Biyan pieces for Lebaran this year (yes, gue udah curi start belanja, hehehe.)

Cuma satu aksesori yg kurang di Lebaran ini.... perut buncit karena hamil.

Not even a Biyan tunic dress and a BVL earrings can distract from the fact that I’m still missing that one big thing at Lebaran.

23 Agustus 2011

How can I not wake up tomorrow with a smile when the last thing this guy said before he fell asleep was: ”Aku kecanduan kamu, Alexandra.”

24 Agustus 2011

Mari jadi istri yang baik dan ikut suami taraweh malam ini.

Senengnya muka laki gue pas gue bilang mau ikut.

Back at the apartement.

By the way, I actually really loved our walk tonight.

The 15 minutes we walked to and from the mesjid, listening to Beno talked about his plans for our future, and him listening to my opinions... priceless. Udah lama nggak ngobrol sedalam itu.

Beno is the type who doesn't talk much. Kalau ngomong panjang-lebar biasanya juga karena lagi "menasihati" gue.

Tapi malam ini dia sama sekali nggak menasihati gue. Cuma ngobrol aja. I always love listening to his views on life.

On life. On us. On our future.

LMAO! Join the club! "@winasoedarjo: Heh, laki lo memang racun, ya! Ini ngapain si Riza pulang-pulang bawa game gitar-gitar apalah itu, gara-gara laki lo!"

25 Agustus 2011

"Nduk, kamu sama Beno masih nunda hamil? Nggak kasihan sama suamimu, Nduk, umurnya udah mau 40."

My mom just now. Nggak tau mau jawab apa gue.

Belum, Win, beliau tahunya gue sama Beno sengaja nunda. RT @winasoedarjo: Lo belum cerita ya sama nyokap lo kalau udah mulai trying sebenarnya?

Memang sengaja nggak, Win, kasihan nanti dia ikut khawatir kenapa gue nggak hamil-hamil. RT @winasoedarjo: Darl, kenapa nggak cerita aja?

Gue suka betapa rumah orangtua gue ini selalu mengingatkan gue pada hal-hal kesatria yang dilakukan Beno.

Waktu dia datang memperkenalkan diri pertama kali kami pacaran 6 tahun yang lalu, dengan sopan dan santunnya dia.

Waktu dia selalu datang untuk ngecek kesehatan ibu gue yang sempat kena serangan jantung, bahkan setelah kami bercerai.

Waktu dia diam-diam tanpa sepengetahuan gue datang ke sini minta izin ke orangtua gue untuk mendekati dan menikahi gue lagi.

Beno itu laki-laki baik-baik banget, sometimes I wonder if I deserve him.

I mean, dalam agama gue, disebutkan bahwa Tuhan menjanjikan perempuan baik-baik untuk jadi jodoh setiap laki-laki baik, vice versa.

He’s a really nice guy—well, despite his flaws—and he got me? I’m not that nice, hahaha.

Heh!! RT @winasoedarjo: Makanya sebagai kompensasinya lo tiap hari jadi korban omelan laki lo. *ngakak*

26 Agustus 2011

Kurang sabar apa gue, ya. He works late, sometimes he comes home in the morning like today, I take care of him still.

Nggak seperti istri-istri lain yang mungkin udah teriak.

I joked about that to him once. He came home at 2 AM one night and I said, teasing him: ”Pulangnya malem banget sih, Honey, abis dari istri kedua, ya.”

Marah lho dia. Dia menatap gue dengan muka ketat: ”Alexandra, tiap aku pulang malam, itu beneran dari RS. Jangan pernah mikir macem-macem ya, aku nggak suka.”

Kaget gue dia semarah itu, bercanda doang ini. ”Ya ampun, Hon, serius banget sih, aku bercanda. Rumah sakit kan memang istri kedua kamu.”

Tetep marah, dia jawab dengan suara tenang tapi muka marah: ”Aku juga nggak suka kamu sebut RS itu istri kedua. Cuma ada satu istri, kamu.”

Gue senyum dalam hati. Dr. Beno ”tight ass” Wicaksono ini memang susah dibercandain. Sejak itu gue nggak pernah nyindir-nyindir bercanda gitu lagi.

27 Agustus 2011

Mau tau cara memelet suami sendiri?

Kalau lagi tidur gini, elus-elus kepalanya sambil doa (dengan tulus ya): semoga selalu sehat, selalu seneng, rezekinya lancar, dan selalu sayang sama gue.

Itu prinsipnya sama dengan yang pernah gue baca, kalau punya anak kecil pas dia tidur elus-elus kepalanya dan ucapkan kalimat positif.

”Jadi anak yang rajin ya, jadi anak baik ya.” Malah nggak boleh pake kalimat negatif, kayak ”jangan males ya, jangan nakal ya.”

Karena yang ditangkap alam bawah sadar otak itu pas tidur justru ”nakal” dan ”males”nya itu, bukan pake ”jangan”nya.

I read that somewhere. Wina is using the same technique to Tiz too.

Aku ingin mencintaimu dengan sederhana, dengan isyarat yang tidak sempat disampaikan awan kepada hujan yang menjadikannya tiada. –Sapardi Djoko Darmono.

Can you believe Beno—this tight ass, unromantic guy—sent me that once?

My reply back then: ”Are you okay?” Serius gue bales ini, soalnya nggak pernah-pernah ngomong begitu, Sapardi Djoko Darmono siapa aja, kali dia nggak tau.

He immediately called me after I replied that: ”Emang kenapa?” Me: ”Nggak kamu banget ngomong begitu.”

Him: ”Kan kamu suka bilang aku nggak romatis, itu udah aku BBM begitu udah romantis belum?” Me: ”Hehehe, kok jadi aneh ya.” Him: ”Yah, salah mulu deh.”

Me: (laughing) ”Nggak salah, Beno, ini sweet banget. Cuma aku merasa aneh aja kalau kamu tiba-tiba bisa BBM begini. Biasanya ngomong sayang aja susah banget.”

Then came his confession: ”Itu tadi diketikin Ario, aku lagi sama dia nih. Kalau nggak suka marah sama Ario aja, ya.”

Gue ketawa dalam hati, bener kan nggak mungkin itu hasil inisiatif sendiri.

I said: ”Hon, boleh titip pesan ke Ario?” Him: ”Apa?”

Me: ”1. Makasih ya udah ngajarin Beno supaya lebih romantis, 2. Balikin Beno-nya, gue mau pacaran.”

Beno laughed when I said that: ”Siap!”

No wonder people call it making love. The more we do it, the more we fall in love with each other.

29 Agustus 2011

Malam takbiran itu agak-agak historical in the story of my life. I always feel romantic on a night like tonight.

Dua tahun yang lalu ”baikan” dengan Beno di Nasi Goreng Sabang, tahun lalu udah pacaran, tahun ini udah menikah, mudah-mudahan tahun depan udah punya anak.

Kalau laki gue sih ngomongnya begini yang bikin gue ketawa.

”Dua tahun yang lalu diajak ke nasgor mau aja udah syukur, tahun lalu mau sahur bareng aja diusir-usir, untung tahun ini udah dimasakin.”.

Lagian, masa waktu masih pacaran jam 3 pagi dateng ke apartemen gue karena katanya mau sahur bareng, ckckckck.

28 Agustus 2011

Kalau tiap bikin #moneydiary ini, rasanya pengen jedut-jedutin kepala ke tembok!

Hidup di Jakarta itu mahal, jenderal!

Ada yang pernah bikin #moneydiary?

#moneydiary itu maksudnya catatan pengeluaran daily routine lo apa aja, supaya tahu sebenernya rutin abis berapa sebulan.

#moneydiary nya dibagi atas kategori ini: housing+utilities, meal, shopping, car+parking, others.

Gue dulu nggak pernah bikin #moneydiary, tapi setelah menikah dan mulai disuruh yang lagi tidur ini untuk mengelola keuangan, baru mulai coba bikin.

Ternyata pengeluaran kami berdua gila-gilaan, ya. Dan as the wife, gue harus bisa jadi CFO-nya rumah tangga ini.

Bo, secara gue aja boros setengah mampus gini LOL.

Tapi standar gaji juga beda. Banker di luar gajinya bisa USD 100 ribu per tahun "@janetnovelia: Hidup di negara lain lebih mahal."

Have you guys ever heard of David Bach? Dia itu semacam financial guru, yang bukunya Automatic Millionaire.

Nah, dia bilang, bahwa dalam pengeluaran rutin kita sehari-hari, ada yang namanya latte factor.

Latte factor itu maksudnya pengeluaran yang sebenarnya kurang penting atau ada substitusinya yang lebih murah.

Kenapa dia pake istilah latte factor, itu untuk menggambarkan orang-orang yang kalau minum kopi aja harus latte-nya Starbucks. Padahal bisa bikin di rumah.

Jadi katanya, coba catat rinci duit kita abis tiap bulan untuk apa aja, dan mulai distabiloin mana yang sebenarnya latte factor.

Contoh: kebiasaan ke Starbucks itu, langganan majalah (perlukah langganan 5 majalah sebulan?), transportasi, handphone, dan lain-lain.

Dengan mengidentifikasi latte factor tadi, trus kita ubah gaya hidup dengan mengurangi pengeluaran yang sifatnya latte factor...

...kita jadi punya disposable income yangg bisa buat nabung jangka panjang (thus multiplying our money in the long run).

Jadi bukan total mengubah sama sekali gaya hidup yang sekarang, biar nggak kaget bertahap, dikurangi aja.

Yang tadinya harus minum Starbucks tiap hari, coba kurangi jadi every other day (selang hari).

Yang tadinya wajib langganan *InStyle, Cosmo, Elle* segala macem tiap bulan, coba janjian langganan beda-beda ama temen lo dan tukar-tukaran baca.

Kalo lo emang punya somewhat an expensive taste, coba jadikan ajang splurge agak mahal itu sebagai reward ke diri sendiri.

Contoh: lo pengen banget belanja sepatu harga satu juta itu, tapi apa penting banget ya sekarang?

Make a mental note aja: gue akan beli sepatu itu kalau target gue di kantor bulan depan tercapai.

That way, lo jadi lebih semangat untuk kerja, target lo dapet, bos lo seneng, dan rasanya nggak guilty pas akhirnya beli sepatunya :)

Sejak gue disuruh lebih berhemat sama yang lagi tidur dan ebuset udah setengah 12 nggak bangun-bangun ini, gue mulai mempraktikkan tips David Bach itu.

Anyway, maaf ya kalo kesannya menggurui, gue juga masih belajar. I thought I'd share them with you.

Ini kalau laki gue nggak bangun-bangun, gue geplak juga pantatnya pake bukunya David Bach yang tebel ini.

31 Agustus 2011

18 same kind of interrogation from 18 different people so far at this halal bi halal. Dear God, udah ya. Enough for today, please...

Tadi pagi 18 pertanyaan, sore ini 13 pertanyaan...

Rasanya pengen pakai baju yang di bagian dadanya disablon tulisan "Saya belum hamil, jangan tanya kapan!" setiap datang ke acara keluarga seperti ini.

Kenapa ya kapan gue dan Beno punya anak itu harus jadi urusan sedunia a.k.a sekeluarga besar?

Gue nggak pernah tuh nanya, ”Tante, hidungnya kok tiba-tiba mancung, operasi atau Haji Jeje?”

Right now, kekuatan gue cuma laki-laki di sebelah gue yang dengan lahap lagi makan puding mangga. Yang dari tadi menjawab santai ”Wong masih mau pacaran berdua aja.”

Which scares me somehow. Karena nanti kalau dia nggak bisa kuat kayak sekarang lagi, kalau dia juga mulai menuntut kenapa gue nggak hamil-hamil, gue bisa apa.

Aku takut kalau kamu suatu hari nanti berubah, Ben.

Iya, Win. I just worry about these things sometimes. RT @winasoedarjo: Trust me, Darla, he’s not gonna. Trust me. Kurang jungkir-balik apa lagi coba hubungan lo berdua selama ini, udah bercerai aja lo masih dikejar lagi sama dia, kan?

Nggak, udah pulang. RT @winasoedarjo: Don’t. Kalau lo kepikiran malah jadinya lo stres sendiri, kan? Ini masih di Mampang?

@winasoedarjo Tadi pas maghrib, gue dan dia ke kamar buat sholat. Dia notice kali ya muka gue agak murung. Dia nanya gue kenapa.

@winasoedarjo Gue jawab aja nggak apa-apa. Dia nyecer terus: ”Lex, dari tadi muka kamu nggak enjoy gitu kok masih bilang nggak apa-apa. Kenapa? Masih masalah ditanya-tanya kapan punya anak itu?”

@winasoedarjo Gue diem aja. Dan si Beno ini masih bisa bercanda, dengan senyumnya: ”Kenapa memangnya kalau belum hamil sampai sekarang, kamu bosen pacaran berdua sama aku?”

@winasoedarjo Dia bilang: ”Aku aja cuek ngomong ke orang-orang bahwa kita mau pacaran berdua aja dulu. Aku pengen anak, Lex, tapi kan nggak bisa dipaksa harus ada sekarang.”

@winasoedarjo "Yang penting aku sehat, kamu sehat, kita terus usaha, udah kan? Biasanya kamu orangnya nggak peduli omongan orang kok kali ini jadi mikirin begini."

@winasoedarjo Gue cuma bisa diem aja, dan dia lama banget ngomong menenangkan gue. Yang akhirnya bikin gue ketawa pas Beno ngomong begini...

@winasoedarjo "Aku sih lebih khawatir jadi buncit (sambil ngelus perut) daripada khawatir kamu nggak hamil-hamil. Kamu pasti nanti hamil. Yang, aku makannya banyak banget ya hari ini."

@winasoedarjo I love how this lempeng guy could come up with something so random, agak gendheng, tapi sekaligus sangat heartwarming itu.

Iya that's what I'm trying to do now. RT @winasoedarjo: See? If I were you, I'd only care what he says. Fuck everybody else. Memang orang Indonesia kan kurang kerjaan, ngurusin urusan orang aja.

I'm such a lucky bitch to have this guy.

First Lebaran as husband and wife again: bittersweet. In the end, I forgot all the bitter part of it. Just the sweetness of him protecting me.

1 September 2011

Semua hamil bulan ini apa maksudnya??? RT @peoplemag: Robert Downey Jr.'s wife Susan is pregnant! http://ow.ly/6hAMj"

2 September 2011

My boss doesn't have a life. Orang yang punya kehidupan nggak akan ngajak rapat hari libur. Sekian. Terima kasih.

Ya ampun sepetnya muka laki gue yang sedang nyetir nganter gue ke kantor ini. Diem, muka dipasang sebel, diajak ngobrol didinginin.

I get the message that you don't like me going to the office on a holiday, Ben. I get the message.

Aduh, ini sih sinting pake ditungguin begini. Nanti kalau lembur kampret ini berjam-jam gimana nggak ngamuk yang nungguin?

Nih contoh nyuruh istri kayak nyuruh anak buahnya. He BBM me this: "Aku udah kelar jumatan, kamu di mana?" Me: "Udah di Pacific Place, mau makan di mana, Hon?" Him: "Gyukaku sekarang."

Afternoon bubble bath: heaven...

Kadang-kadang kalau lagi bengong berendam begini, I stare at my wedding ring—cincin yang bertuliskan "property of Beno" ini—and thought...

...Semoga kali ini buat selamanya. Nggak apa-apa deh pakai tertekan perasaan kayak tadi, anggap aja pelajaran bersabar.

Some days, Beno, it's so easy to love you, and some other days it's not that easy.

And I know, looking back at our history, if I may borrow a phrase from Coldplay: nobody says it was easy.

LOL kelakuan ya RT @winasoedarjo: Nobody says it was easy... *nyanyi* *sambil pengen jitak si Riza tetep dengan sepatunya dinaikin ke sofa*

Tadi sebelum gue masuk kamar mandi, dan dia dengan cueknya main Wii seolah-olah tadi siang dia nggak ada "menyakiti" perasaan gue, gue duduk di sebelahnya dan ngomong ini:

”Ben, sama istrinya jangan ketus-ketus kayak tadi ya, Hon. Aku sakit dengernya kalau kamu gitu. Aku juga nggak mau lembur, tapi harus gimana. Tolong mengerti ya, Hon.”

Waktu gue ngomong itu, dia berhenti main dan menoleh ke gue, diem nggak ngomong apa-apa.

Dalam hati gue, kenapa lu diem sekarang, minta maaf kek, ngomong apa kek.

But this is what I did, gue elus lengannya dan gue bilang ini: ”Tapi makasih ya, Hon, tadi udah nungguin. Maaf ya bikin kamu nunggu lama.”

Dia tetap diem, ya udah gue tinggal aja. I don’t know what’s in his head and I don’t wanna give myself a headache guessing.

Tebak siapa yang barusan BBM, si gendheng itu: ”Sayang, mandinya kok lama banget?”

Mulai manggil pake ”sayang”, tanda-tanda mulai merasa bersalah atau ada maunya atau both. I replied: ”Nggak apa-apa, emang kenapa?”

Balasannya: ”Mau ngajak kamu dinner keluar, kalau kamu nggak capek. Mau, Yang?” (Translation, for you info: I’m sorry I was a jerk).

Me: ”Mau ke mana, Hon?” (translation: I know you’re sorry). Him: ”Terserah kamu aja pengen di mana.” (Translation: I’m really really sorry).

Me: ”Aku pikirin dulu ya, bentar lagi aku selesai mandi.” (Translation: I understand it’s your personality trait and I love you inspite of it).

Him: ”Aku udah selesai main game ya, Yang, kapan pun kamu mau berangkat ayo.” (Translation: I’m really apologizing here, please forgive me okay?).

Him: ”Yang, tapi kita balik ke rumah sebelum jam 10 ya, aku mau nonton bola.” (Translation: aku mau nonton bola).

Anyway my choice for tonight: Sekitei at the Dharmawangsa. One of the finest Japanese resto in Jakarta. We both love their teppanyaki.

Gue gampangan, kali ya. Dengan dia diem manis, tiba-tiba megang tangan gue (jarang banget) di lift apartemen dan terus megang sampe ke parkir, gue luluh aja.

Sekarang gue boleh marah nggak, ini udah on the way ke Sekitei, dia tiba-tiba ditelepon rumah sakitnya, ada yang emergency dan dia harus ke sana. Boleh marah nggak gue?

3 September 2011

A nice, laid back breakfast date with the husband at Koi. Thank you, honey.

Ada yang merasa bersalah banget kayaknya. No more Lex this and Lex that, it’s ”sayang” all day since this morning.

Well, anyway, have a great Saturday, everyone. Di rumah aja kalau dengan orang yang tepat itu menyenangkan kok, nggak usah keluar.

Kalo denger war stories-nya Beno waktu dia sekolah, mulai dari jadi dokter di sini sampai jadi spesialis, gue agak-agak bengong.

Nggak bakalan sanggup kayaknya gue belajar dan bekerja sekeras itu.

Btw, follower gue ada yang dokter atau calon dokter? Nggak capek?

Sabar-sabar ya :) RT @widiyanii: Pacar aku calon dokter. Rasanya sifatnya mirip Beno banget. Kayaknya semua dokter kayak gitu deh.

Good luck :) RT @mmarselina: Aku, Mbak, masih calon dokter aja capeknya udah nggak nahan. Nggak kebayang ntar kalau udah jadi.

Hidup shopping! RT @lucyprav: Capeklah! Kalau ada waktu luang benar-benar dimanfaatin, entah tidur atau shopping :D

LOL lo juga tukang molor ya. RT @shashakinah: AKU!! Calon dokter. Capeeeek. Makanya aku bisa mengerti Beno tidur terus.

Yes, that explains. RT @yurdhina_md: Dan kalau dokter emosinya nggak lempeng, kebayang ribetnya jaga mood ngadepin case aneh-aneh setiap harinya.

Halah RT @deleyanova: Aku lagi koass! Molor itu heaven banget kalau abis jaga. Hebat Beno jadi Sp.BTKV, aku juga mau punya suami begitu, hihihi.

Gue dendam sama dokter gigi, nambal aja sejuta hiks "@wahyu_antari: Saya calon dokter gigi. Masuk hitungan nggak? *ngarep*"

OTW to our dinner date at Sekitei. Akhirnya setelah tadi malam batal. Pasien-pasien dan masyarakat Jakarta, jangan serangan jantung dulu, ya.

How's the date, you might ask? Let's just say the doctor will get very lucky tonight ;)

Hahahaha, sialan! RT @winasoedarjo: Idih, murahan banget, diajak dinner aja langsung put out ;)

4 September 2011

Tadi jam 4 kebangun karena Beno tiba-tiba dipanggil ke rumah sakit, sekarang kebangun karena dia baru balik dan langsung molor kecapekan.

Ganti baju pun nggak, and I had to take off his shoes and socks karena dia telanjur ketiduran.

Kasian padahal tadi malem baru tidur jam 1.

Badannya bisa rontok lama-lama kalau dipanggil-panggil tengah malam terus sama rumah sakit.

Sometimes I wish he has a more relaxed job with better work hours.

Or move to another hospital yang dia bisa jadi lebih senior dan nggak jadi korban on-call aja kayak gini.

7 September 2011

I read once that Egyptians had fifty words for sand and the Eskimos had a hundred words for snow.

I wish I had 1000 words for love, but all that comes to mind is the way he constantly hugs me when he sleeps, and there are no words 4 that.

Oh wait, there is a word for it: guling LOL.

Here's the history of the guling thing.

Pertama kali he insisted to sleepover itu, sepulangnya dia dari RS sekitar jam 10 malam, dia mampir ke apartemen gue. Jam 11an dia ngomong: "Aku boleh tidur di sini nggak?"

Gue tanya kenapa. Sakit? Dijawab: ”Nggak, cuma ngantuk banget kalau nyetir lagi. Boleh ya?” Ya udah, gue bolehin... di sofa ruang tamu LOL.

Dia bengong pas gue ambilin selimut dan bantal dan gue bilang, ”Tidur di sini ya, sofanya enak kok.” Lucu banget muka bengongnya.

About 3 days after that, dia mampir lagi ke apartemen gue setelah pulang dari RS, jam 9an. Menjelang tengah malam dia ngomong lagi yang sama.

”Lex, aku ngantuk banget, kayaknya nggak kuat nyetir pulang lagi deh, nginep boleh ya.” Gue jawab: ”Oh ya udah, aku ambilin bantal ya.”

You know what he said?

”Eh, ehm, Yang, (tiba-tiba pake ”Yang” LOL), kemarin sakit banget punggung aku abis tidur di sofa, sama kamu di dalam nggak boleh, ya?’”

Dalam hati gue: Idih, ini muka polos, lempeng, kelakuan sama aja hahahaha.

Pas gue diem, he said; ”Tidur doang, Yang, janji nggak ngapa-ngapain. Boleh ya? Nggak kasihan sama aku, capek banget dari RS, Yang.” Akhirnya gue iyain.

Jadi ya, coba ditegaskan, siapa yang merusak siapa coba? Bukan gue ya.

Pas mau tidur, posisi biasa aja dong. He kissed me good night and fell asleep. Pas gue kebangun pagi, buset paha udah mati rasa aja digulingin.

Hahaha gue rasa juga gitu. RT @odeelix: Aku rasa itu 3 hari dia senewen dipikirin mateng-mateng gimana caranya biar boleh tidur di kamar. Hihi :P

Kampret! RT @winasoedarjo: I stand by my ground: yang merusak si Beno itu jadi nggak polos lagi memang elo, ya.

11 September 2011

Morning se... swim! I mean swim!

Sometimes I wish I can cook. I mean, really cook.

But then again, kebayang ribetnya, males sama dapurnya, males nyuci-nyucinya, males motong-motongnya. Ya males...

Dulu, waktu gue pertama pacaran sama Beno, gue dibawa ke rumahnya dikenalin. His mom cooked lunch dan kita makan siang bareng.

Waktu gue mulai makan dan enak banget, gue langsung stres, mati gue kalau ditanyain bisa masak apa nggak.

Dan secara Beno suka makan, gue juga jadi mikir, emang dia mau serius sama gue kalau tau gue nggak bisa masak sama sekali?

Anyway, that lunch gue aman karena nggak ada bahas-bahasan tentang gue bisa masak apa nggak. Tapi nggak lama setelah itu, malam-malam pulang dari RS Beno langsung mampir ke apartemen gue.

Dateng-dateng ngomong begini: ”Laper, Lex, belum makan.” Me: ”Aduh, lagi nggak ada makanan, aku telepon delivery aja, ya? Kamu mau makan apa?”

Reaksinya? ”Kamu nggak masak, ya?”

Me: (doeenggg! gimana jawabnya?) ”Engg... aku kan nggak bisa masak. Selalu makan di luar.”

Dia diem. Gue: (langkah penyelamatan diri) ”Tapi di kulkas ada telur sama nugget sih. Mau aku dadarin telur+goreng nugget?”

Dia ngangguk. Gue bikinin. Dia makan dengan lahap diakhiri dengan ucapan: ”Makasih ya, enak.” Dalam hati gue: cinta beneran berarti orang ini sama gue hehehe.

12 September 2011

Laki gue udah kayak siskamling. Tengah malam pergi, jam 3 pulang. Banyak maling yang ketangkap tadi malem, Hon?

Definitely not pregnant. Well, Ben, I guess we'll try again.

Ini tiap bulan kayak ikut undian, memilih kertas dari dalam mangkuk, cuma selama ini kertas yang gue dapat cuma yang tulisannya ”Anda belum beruntung” terus.

18 September 2011

I have made peace with the fact that the doctor is being called to the hospital at 6 AM this morning. On a Saturday, mind you. Made my peace by going back to sleep.

22 September 2011

Someone said that the power of the relationship belongs to the person who cares less.

In the case of Beno and I, who do you think holds the power?

Silly question, why did I even ask that?

You know, last night I had a very vivid dream. Like it really happened. Jarang-jarang mimpi pas bangun paginya ingat sejelas ini.

Di mimpi itu, adegannya gue baru bangun tidur, di sebelah gue Beno was holding a baby, he looked so happy.

Pas gue bangun, Beno said this to the baby: ”Tuh, Mommy baru bangun, Mommy sekarang tukang molor kayak Daddy, ya.”

I smiled and kissed him, and kissed the baby, then we played with the baby, then gue terbangun dari mimpi.

Waktu bangun rasanya senang campur sedih. Senang karena mimpinya kayak beneran, sedih pas sadar cuma mimpi. Artinya apa ya?

You know what made me even sadder? Nggak pernah gue melihat wajah Beno sebahagia di mimpi itu, and I love that face.

Dan sekarang kepikiran, kapan bisa melihat wajah itu lagi? Nunggu punya anak atau berharap gue dikasih mimpi itu lagi?

24 September 2011

@winasoedarjo Win, I was just wondering, is there a class anywhere I could take on ”How to be a Doctor’s Wife 101”?

Another ”small” fight gara-gara gue ngingetin dia supaya nggak sering-sering on-call nggak jelas. RT @winasoedarjo: Hahaha, kenapa lo?

@winasoedarjo Si gendheng itu pulang jam 4 pagi. Udah kejadian kan waktu itu dia sakit saraf punggungnya sebulan karena kecapekan, masa ini nggak learned his lesson dan tetep sibuk-sibuk begini?

@winasoedarjo Dan mulai deh dia tadi pakai kata-kata pamungkas-nya ”Kamu tuh nggak ngerti.” Paling males gue kalau dia udah ngomong begitu.

Ya nggak gitu juga, kali! RT @winasoedarjo: Ya sudahlah, Lex. Gue aja kalau sama si Riza asal dia nggak pulang-pulangnya itu nggak sampai 3 kali puasa 3 kali Lebaran ya udah, namanya juga pekerjaannya gitu.

@winasoedarjo Kalau dia sehat-sehat aja ya, gue sih udah pasrah deh dengan jam kerjanya yang nggak jelas itu. Tapi gue takut kejadian lagi kayak dulu.

2 Oktober 2011

On the way to Wina's nujuh bulanan.

I love you with all my heart, Win. Sorry ya gue sedih-sedih nggak jelas gini. RT @winasoedarjo: Sabar ya, Darl. Gue doain lo tiap malam biar cepat hamil.

5 Oktober 2011

Boooooooring day.

I miss you, Ben. Nggak pulang-pulang...

Yes, he just called that it's most likely he will be spending the night at the hospital today.

Ini apa gue harus tidur di rumah sakit ya baru bisa ketemu laki sendiri?

50% I miss him like hell, 50% I'm worried about his health if he keeps doing this.

6 Oktober 2011

Pengumuman: gue ”menjanda” lagi malam ini. Sekian. Terima kasih.

Bapak Robert Downey, Jr. atau Mas Ryan Gosling, kalau mau ke rumah, monggo lho, suami saya kebetulan lagi nggak ada.

Pppffffft... RT @winasoedarjo: Keseringan ditinggal-tinggal suami memang bikin delusional ya, Lex.

Mau tidur di Kebagusan aja malam ini. At least I can swim this ”kesebelan” away.

Belum! Telepon nggak diangkat, BBM dibaca pun nggak. Besok-besok teleponnya dibuang aja ke WC. RT @winasoedarjo: Hahaha, emosi. Masih belum pulang juga si Beno?

@winasoedarjo Nice, sekalinya nelepon gue balik, gue diomel-omelin sama si Beno karena tidur di Kebagusan sendirian.

@winasoedarjo Katanya: ”Kamu itu ya, maunya apa sih? Udah tau aku lagi pusing mikirin pasien ini, kamu lagi nambah-nambahin pikiran aku dengan ke Kebagusan sendirian.”

LOL kampret lo memang! Kayak laki gue bisa dibercandain aja. RT @winasoedarjo: Bilang aja lo nggak sendirian, sama Ryan Gosling gitu.

@winasoedarjo You know, Win, sejak gue dan dia menikah lagi, tiap gue mau marah tentang pekerjaannya, I always think a hundred times before I open my mouth.

@winasoedarjo Why? 2 reasons. 1, kalau gue marah, dia pasti tersinggung dan marah balik, dan pasti perang besar. Takut kejadian seperti dulu lagi.

@winasoedarjo 2, kalau gue marah, dia kepikiran, gue khawatir konsentrasinya di RS jadi terganggu, dan ganggu kinerja dia menolong pasiennya.

@winasoedarjo But now I wonder, has he ever been that considerate towards me?

@winasoedarjo Dia pernah nggak sih mikir, kalau dia ngomel-ngomel nggak jelas, ngabsen-ngabsen, dan mengatur-atur nasabah gimana yang boleh gue tangani, dia juga bikin gue kepikiran?

@winasoedarjo That he makes me think like this all day at work: Beno bakal marah nggak ya?

@winasoedarjo What kind of relationship is this? Relationshit adanya.

7 Oktober 2011

Capeknya ya Allah...

At the end of a long day at work like this, bubble bath is my sanctuary.

Same shit, different day. RT @winasoedarjo: Darl, sori gue baru baca tweets lo tadi malam. How's life at the Wicaksonos today after last night?

D winasoedarjo I suddenly remember the long conversation we would have in this bathtub.

D winasoedarjo When he'd join me in the tub and he sat behind me and I laid my head and my back on his chest and we would talk about everything.

D winasoedarjo There's nothing sexual about it except the fact that we're both naked. Cuma wind down, relaxing our mind, dan ngobrol tenang.

D winasoedarjo I miss that.

I don't know, 2 or 3 months ago. RT @winasoedarjo: When was the last time you both had this moment?

D winasoedarjo Sekarang boro-boro ngobrol begitu. Pulang aja subuh.

D winasoedarjo Now all he does is spend the night at the hospital, pulang dini hari, peluk-peluk gue bilang he misses me until we did it, then he slept. Udah.

D winasoedarjo Who does he think he is? A superhero who saves people all day and then comes home and fuck me whenever he wants?

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Lex, jangan ngomong gitu.

D winasoedarjo Sorry, I know that was harsh. But I can't find any other way to say what's in my head right now.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Lex, can I ask you something? Lo lebih marah karena dia nggak jaga kesehatan atau karena selalu ninggalin lo?

D winasoedarjo Gue khawatir dia nggak jaga kesehatan, dan gue marah karena gue merasa dia mulai kayak dulu lagi. So caught up with his work at the hospital and forgets everything else.

D winasoedarjo The worst part about it is that he thinks it's okay.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw I don't know what to say, Darl. I mean, you know him more than me. A lot more. Gue nggak ngerti harus ngomong apa.

D winasoedarjo Gue takut karena ini dia yang gue kenal dulu. Yang gue kenal waktu pernikahan pertama dulu. Yang nggak pulang-pulang, cuma mikirin rumah sakit.

D winasoedarjo You know why this sucks for me? Because I cannot

react the way I want to. Gue nggak bisa marah-marah kayak dulu, karena gue udah pernah mengalami ujungnya kayak apa.

D winasoedarjo So what the hell am I supposed to do now?

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Beno is... well, like you always said to me... unique. He's Beno. Yang elo istrinya aja nggak selalu bisa mengerti dia maunya apa.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Hanya satu maunya si Beno yang gue tahu: dia mau lo, Neng. He wants you. Kalau nggak, nggak akan dia mau ngejar-ngejar lo lagi setelah lo dulu pisah sama dia.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw So, Darla, that's the only thing you need to remember right now, biar lo tenang. Masalah dia sekarang lagi brengsek-brengseknya seperti yang lo bilang, lo pikirin nanti ya.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Lo tenangin diri aja dulu, ya. Sleep, Lex. I know you are ready to burst right now, tapi sabar aja dulu ya.

8 Oktober 2011

D winasoedarjo Woke up to find Beno has already left to the hospital. On a Saturday. Pamit ke gue pake BBM atau Post-It aja nggak.

Cuma ngomong ke si Mbok: "Bilang ke istri saya kalau saya ke rumah sakit." The Mbok said he left at 6 AM. RT @winasoedarjo: BBM juga nggak?

D winasoedarjo Gue bahkan nggak punya energi untuk menelepon dia dan nanya: "Kamu ke RS karena beneran ada pasien atau menghindar dari aku karena our fight last night?"

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Lho, bukannya tadi malam jadinya lo tidur duluan, ya? Kok malah berantem lagi?

D winasoedarjo Couldn't sleep. Dia pulang, kami berantem lagi.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Aduuuh, lo berdua itu nggak bisa ya sehari aja gitu damai nggak usah pake berantem?

D winasoedarjo You know what started the big fight last night? I said the "you think you're a superhero dst" sentence.

I did. Yeah, I know. Stupid. Oh, well. At least now he knows what I really feel. RT @winasoedarjo: Shit, Lex, no, you didn't!

D winasoedarjo Dia tidur di kamar tamu tadi malam.

Shitty afternoon.

Can't, gue ada janji lunch sama Ibu Mertua hari ini. Nanti gue telepon ya. RT @winasoedarjo: Lunch bareng gue yuk, Darl, kita obrolin ini.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Neng, ngilang dari siang sampai malam gini. How was lunch?

D winasoedarjo Di rumah. Lunch was fine. Ibunya nanya sih tadi: "Beno masih suka pulang-pulang malem juga?"

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Lo jawab apa?

D winasoedarjo Gue bilang aja, "Seperti biasanya, Bu, pasiennya lagi banyak katanya." Mana mungkin gue ceritain anaknya kelakuannya udah pulang subuh terus hampir seminggu ini.

D winasoedarjo Ibunya masih nanya lagi, "Tapi kalian baik-baik saja, kan?" Gue jawab aja nggak ada apa-apa. Fake smile all over my face.

D winasoedarjo Tapi kata-kata ibunya yang bikin gue bingung mau ngomong apa adalah ini...

D winasoedarjo ”Ibu titip jagain Beno ya, Alexandra. Ibu tahu dia keras kepala, terlalu dedikasi sama pekerjaannya, kamu yang bantu mengingatkan, ya.”

D winasoedarjo ”Untung dia punya istri seperti kamu yang sabar tapi juga bisa tegas. Kamu harus bisa tegas mengingatkan dia, biar nggak kecapekan, biar ada waktu buat kamu.”

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Nah lho....

D winasoedarjo Dalam hati gue: anaknya yang setiap gue bilangin langsung ngamuk mau gimana?

Ppppfff tttt RT @winasoedarjo: Kan dia berharapnya elu yang bisa jadi ”penjinak” anaknya, Neng.

D winasoedarjo Gue cinta anaknya. Banget. Cuma gue udah mulai kehilangan kesabaran sama kelakuannya.

D winasoedarjo Capek gue sebenarnya begini, Win.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Laki lo udah balik dari rumah sakit?

D winasoedarjo Udah. Tadi gue pulang lunch jam 3 siang, si Beno udah duduk nungguin gue di ruang tengah.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Did he say anything?

D winasoedarjo Dia nanya gue dari mana. Gue jawab. I noticed he was touching his back. Gue tanya, ”Punggung kamu kenapa? Sakit lagi?”

D winasoedarjo Dia diem aja. Gue ngomong lagi, ”Makanya jangan capek-capek di RS, Ben.”

D winasoedarjo Lo mau tahu tanggapannya? ”Udah deh, Lex, kenapa sih harus komentar masalah pekerjaan aku terus? Aku belakangan ini sibuk karena banyak pasien yang harus ditolong. Kamu nggak ngerti.”

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Jadi tadi sore berantem lagi?

D winasoedarjo Nggak. Begitu dia bawa kata-kata ”kamu nggak ngerti” itu gue udah males, gue langsung masuk kamar.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Belum ngobrol apa pun lagi sejak tadi sore?

D winasoedarjo Nope.

D winasoedarjo Is it always gonna be like this, Win?

D winasoedarjo Dia nggak bisa dibilangin, gue harus bisa menahan emosi terus.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Lex, lo sendiri yang pernah bilang ke gue, even in your worst days with him, you are happier than your best days without him. Isn’t that enough?

D winasoedarjo I don’t know, Win. Is it?

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw You know the answer, Lexy. You do.

D winasoedarjo Barusan gue ke dapur, gue lihat dia ketiduran di sofa sementara TV masih nyala.

D winasoedarjo His face when he’s sleeping is my weakness. Peaceful, innocent, just like a little baby.

D winasoedarjo I watched him sleeping for a minute. Sayang banget gue sama orang ini, maybe more than anything. And I just want to take care of him. Tapi ingat kurang ajarnya dia akhir-akhir ini....

D winasoedarjo So I just put a blanket over him and went back to my bedroom.

I'm sorry, Ben. Aku belum bisa.

9 Oktober 2011

Starting my Sunday with tears.

Ya ampun, Beno...

He has left to the hospital again, since before I woke up. But he left me a letter.

Dengan tulisan tangan jeleknya itu di atas kertas resep dokter bolak-balik, he wrote me a love letter. And I'm still crying even after I read it.

Kalau kata si Mbok, pas dia bangun jam 5 pagi, Beno udah bangun dan lagi duduk nulis surat itu. Then he suddenly got a call then left at 6.

His first letter to me in almost 7 years that we know each other that left me crying until now.

Iyaaaa, gue masih terpana sampai sekarang. RT @winasoedarjo: HE WROTE YOU A LOVE LETTER? THE BENO WICAKSONO WROTE YOU A LOVE LETTER? APA ISINYA??? * kepo maksimal *

This is what he wrote...

Dear Alexandra, terima kasih ya tadi malam udah menyelimuti aku.

Bangun tidur dan merasakan badan aku hangat karena diselimuti kamu itu rasanya tenang dan lega, Lex, bahwa kamu masih mau memperhatikan aku...

...walaupun saat ini ngomong sama aku pun kamu nggak mau lagi.

Terima kasih selama ini kamu juga memberikan perhatian, rasa tenang, dan hangat itu kepada aku setiap malam, Alexandra.

Aku pergi ke rumah sakit untuk berusaha membuat pasien tetap hidup, tapi aku pulang setiap malam ke kamu karena cuma kamu yang bisa buat aku tetap ingin hidup.

Aku pulang setiap malam dengan rasa kecanduan perhatian, rasa tenang, hangat, dan semua perasaan yang bikin aku tetap hidup yang kamu berikan, Alexandra.

Sepanjang hari aku hidup untuk menolong orang, sepanjang hari itu juga aku bertahan karena aku tahu setelah setiap hari yang berat itu...

...aku punya kamu sebagai tujuan pulang.

Setiap aku merasa capek banget berdiri seharian demi membedah orang, aku ingat bahwa nanti waktu aku pulang ke rumah...

...ada kamu yang memeluk aku, dan mengelus-elus punggung aku yang pegal banget ini, Alexandra.

Tahu bahwa ada kamu di rumah setiap malam adalah satu-satunya hal yang bisa bikin aku bertahan dalam tekanan apa pun yang aku hadapi tiap hari di rumah sakit.

My patients owe their lives not to me, but to you, because you're the one who can make me function every single day.

Maafkan aku, karena aku lupa bahwa keberadaan kamu sebagai istri bukan cuma untuk memberikan perhatian, rasa tenang, rasa hangat dan sayang kepada aku, suami kamu.

Aku lupa bahwa keberadaan kamu bukan hanya untuk memuaskan kebutuhan dan kecanduan aku pada kamu.

Maafkan aku, Lex, karena di saat kamu ngerti banget gimana membuat aku bahagia, suami kamu ini justru nggak mengerti gimana caranya buat kamu merasa yang sama.

Merasa disayang, diperhatikan, dijadikan nomor satu, seperti yang kamu berikan kepada aku.

Jadi supaya aku bisa jadi suami yang lebih baik buat kamu, karena istri yang sempurna seperti kamu berhak mendapatkan aku yang sempurna juga, mohon bersabar dan ajari aku ya.

Sejak aku pertama sayang kamu hampir 7 tahun yang lalu, tiap hari aku belajar kamu, Lex.

Aku belajar apa yang bikin kamu tertawa, apa yang bikin kamu sedih.

Aku merasa gagal banget waktu aku sadar bahwa bertahun-tahun aku belajar kamu, ternyata aku masih juga menyakiti kamu.

Di saat aku merasa udah hafal apa saja yang bikin kamu menangis jadi aku menghindari semua hal-hal itu, air mata kamu masih jatuh juga, Lex.

Aku nggak pinter dengan kata-kata, aku juga nggak pinter menunjukkan perasaan aku, aku mungkin juga nggak pinter menjaga perasaan kamu...

...tapi aku ingin kamu tahu kalau aku cinta mati sama kamu, Lex. Aku nggak mau perempuan lain sampai kapan pun.

Jadi ajari aku ya, Lex. Mohon sabar dan ajari Beno-nya kamu ini biar bisa membuat kamu merasakan cinta matinya aku sama kamu setiap hari.

Maaf aku harus minta maaf pakai tulisan tangan yang jelek ini. Aku takut salah bicara dan makin menyakiti kamu kalau aku ngomong langsung, Yang.

Udahan ya marahnya, Yang. Aku udah nggak kuat lagi tidur lebih dari 2 malam ini tanpa merasakan hangat dan tenangnya memeluk kamu.

Sayang kamu banget, Alexandra, lebih dari apa pun. –Beno

I'm crying even as I tweet that.

Sumpah gue mau frame ini suratnya. Love you to the moon and back, Beno Wicaksono.

So I just BBM him this: "Aku tunggu di rumah, ya."

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw All you need is love, Lexy. All you need is love.

@winasoedarjo Indeed.

12 Oktober 2011

20 tahun lagi dari sekarang, when you're 59 and I'm 51 and if we're—mudah-mudahan nggak—childless, I still have you and you still have me, right, Ben?

He's now back to his serious reading. I have given this man everything that I can but an offspring. Little Beno. Please help me, God. Please.

15 Oktober 2011

To Kebagusan we go.

Tiz is here! Beno lagi merangkak keliling ruang tengah jadi kuda buat Tiz. Ckckckck.

Now Tiz just fell asleep on my lap hugging me. Pengennya punya anak sendiri...

As Tiz fell asleep, Beno just kissed my forehead, looked into my eyes and whispered: ”Sabar ya, Lex. Nanti juga kita punya anak sendiri.”

Winaaaa, pinjem Tiz-nya satu malem dong!

Love you so much, Win! *hugs* ”@winasoedarjo: Ya udah, kalau Tiz-nya betah, nanti gue jemput jam 8 malam aja, ya.”

16 Oktober 2011

Our conversation last night after Tiz went home: Beno said he wants four kids.

He said it jokingly, but boy, pushing four kids out of my vagina? Yang bener aja lo.

Me? Kalau dikasih (tolong diaminkan), I just want two. A boy and a girl.

Dan gue langsung ketawa waktu Beno komentar ini tentang anak perempuan: ...

”Lex, kalau kita punya anak perempuan, kamu tega waktu anak kita umur 16 tahun, bapaknya yang sudah umur 56 ini ngejar-ngejar dia dan pacarnya yang nggak pulang-pulang?”

Gue ketawa. ”Ih kamu juga doanya jangan supaya anak kita nggak pulang-pulang dong pacarnya.” Sebenarnya gue ketawa about his age, tapi nanti si oom-oom ini marah.

Then he went on and on about how teenage boys nowadays have a raging hormone blablabla.

Gue senyum-senyum aja komentar begini: ”Pantas kamu khawatir ya, wong bapaknya aja dulu waktu pacaran disuruh pulang nggak mau, maunya nginep.”

His reaction? Diam dua detik, mukanya merah, tapi langsung merepet lagi: ”Bukan gitu, tapi memang remaja cowok zaman sekarang itu parah tau, Lex, blablabla....” Panjaaang!

Gue dengerin aja sambil senyum-senyum. I get his point though.

Yeah, when he said he wants four kids, he means he wants four boys.

I know, right? Paranoid-nya itu cute! RT @winasoedarjo: Ya ampun, si Beno ini kadang-kadang lucu juga hahahaha.

@winasoedarjo Gue bilang ke dia, Win: ”Kamu kan sayang banget sama Tiz, Hon, masa nggak mau anak perempuan sendiri? Masa maunya anak laki-laki aja?”

@winasoedarjo His answer’s so cute! ”Kalau kita punya anak perempuan, aku pasti sayang banget setengah mati dan nggak akan sanggup melihat dia kenapa-kenapa di dunia yang seperti sekarang.”

@winasoedarjo ”Lihat dia lecet dikit karena jatuh naik sepeda aja aku bisa jantungan, apalagi kalau lihat dia dipegang-pegang sama pacarnya. Bisa ngamuk aku, Lex.”

Yeah, I already feel sorry for the future boyfriends of our future daughter LOL. RT @winasoedarjo: Kebayang sih gue, laki lo nanti jadi ayah yang pasang muka serem tiap anak lo didatengin pacarnya.

I love his heart. I’m not going to like his overprotective ways in raising kids one day, but I love his heart. Cara dia sayang itu luar biasa.

Anyway, Hon, kalau aku hamil tahun ini, umur kamu itu udah hampir 60 tahun aja waktu anak kita remaja, masa umur segitu mau gebukin pacar anaknya.

17 Oktober 2011

Can't today, Darla. Ini lagi nunggu Beno jemput gue. We have an appointment at the fertility doctor at lunch. RT @winasoedarjo: Lunch today?

Wish us luck.

Not good news.

Long and tiring meeting after a depressing time at the doctor. Today is cruel to me. To us.

Nanti abis meeting gue DM ya. RT @winasoedarjo: Hei, kenapa? Gimana hasil dari dokter tadi?

D winasoedarjo Beno's sperm count is below normal, so that's probably the reason why it's difficult for us to conceive.

D winasoedarjo Kata dokternya kemungkinan besar karena dia kecapekan and he's not eating right. So we need to fix his lifestyle for the next few months.

Iya, fixable kok, Win. RT @winasoedarjo: Ya ampun, Darla, yang sabar ya. It's fixable, kan?

D winasoedarjo Gue sedih dengarnya, tapi lebih sedih lagi melihat Beno yang terpukul banget setelah dikasih tahu hasil test-nya tadi.

D winasoedarjo Tadi pulang dari dokter dia diem aja sepanjang perjalanan. Gue mau nanya "are you okay" aja nggak berani lihat mukanya.

D winasoedarjo I mean, it's a very sensitive issue for a man. Dan gue takut banget salah ngomong. Makanya tadi pas dia diam aja di mobil, gue juga diam.

D winasoedarjo It breaks my heart to see him like this.

Nanti gue kabari ya, gue meeting dulu. RT @winasoedarjo: If you wanna talk, ngopi-ngopi nanti sore yuk.

29 Oktober 2011

D winasoedarjo Gue mau nangis when after we did it last night, Beno kissed my tummy, whispering: "Son, bantu Daddy bikin Mommy kamu senang dengan nempel di rahim Mommy, ya."

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw *hugs* I'm sure I can make you smile if I say the magic line. "Awwww, I love your style, Beno Wicaksono!"

D winasoedarjo Hahahaha, kampret.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Liburan gih sama si Beno biar lo berdua nggak stres melulu mikirin anak.

D winasoedarjo Bayarin kek.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Preetttt!

1 November 2011

La dolce far niente. The sweetness of doing nothing.

9 November 2011

Just because someone doesn't love you the way you want him to, doesn't mean he doesn't love you with everything he has.

Learned that the hard way.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw I just marked your previous tweets as favorite, biar kalau besok-besok lo ngeluh tentang kelakuan laki lo lagi, tinggal gue sodorin tuh tweets.

@winasoedarjo Hahaha, dodol!

22 November 2011

My anniversary is in less than three weeks and I don't know what to get the doctor as a gift. Ideas, please?

Susah beneran nyari hadiah buat orang yang hobinya cuma bedah orang sama tidur. Mau gue kasih apa coba, pisau? Bantal?

Hadiah yang paling sempurna itu kalau gue hamil, tapi ya gimana....

Pernah gue tanya, dia mau hadiah apa dari gue. Dijawab: "Nggak usah pake hadiah, asal kamu nurut sama aku dan kalau lagi marah nggak kabur-kabur aja udah cukup."

Sialan, maksudnya selama ini gue melawan terus gitu sama dia?

Ehm, I did that, as hadiah Lebaran :) RT @scthw: Yourself wrapped in big red ribbon? #giftidea

Kayak lo nggak kenal si Beno aja. Ingat tanggalnya aja udah syukur. RT @winasoedarjo: Do you know what he's getting you?

26 November 2011

Perfect Saturday :)

Alhamdulillah, congrats to my bestie @winasoedarjo for the birth of her baby just now, so happy! Baby boy and the mom are both healthy.

Senengnya dapat satu keponakan lagi. Riza sent us the picture of the newborn, cakep banget bayinya.

27 November 2011

On our way to Wina's hospital. Can't wait to hold the baby boy in my arms!

Introducing: Madaharsa Adiputra, Wina and Riza's newborn baby boy.

Bahasa Kawi, artinya passion of love. RT @evi_santi: Congratulations buat Wina, ya! Jagoannya udah lahir. Madaharsa artinya apa?

Tiz ada nih. Normal, only 3 hours of labor. RT @fdella: Tiz mana? Wina lahirannya normal/caesar? Congrats, Wina!

Oke, Wina mulai sinting, Madaharsa kan panjang ya, jadi dia mau nickname anaknya Maddox. Woi, elo bukan Angelina Jolie, woi! :))))

You know a weird thing that I just realized now after years of being together with this guy?

When we're not in bed, I call him "honey" and he calls me "Lex". When we're in bed, he calls me "sayang" and I call him by his name. Weird habit.

Don't ask me why. We just do.

Jadi nggak sabar nunggu 3 Desember. We're leaving to Raja Ampat for a week for our wedding anniversary getaway. Anniversary-nya tanggal 5.

You know, I never knew I'm into much older men until I met Beno.

Ternyata pacaran sama laki-laki yang jauh lebih tua itu menyenangkan. Everything is simple, less drama, dianya bisa bikin gue kalem, dia nggak macem-macem.

And it's so easy to make him happy. Gue nggak harus date heboh ke mana atau harus dandan jungkir balik, duduk-duduk di apartemen berdua nonton DVD aja dia udah seneng.

On that part, he's very low maintenance. While kalau dengan yang dulu-dulu, mau nge-date aja harus dandan serius karena dibawanya fine dining terus.

Older men tend to be more secure with themselves and their lives. Jadi nggak butuh eksis di mana gitu untuk merasa dia utuh.

Prinsip Beno dulu pas kami pacaran: ”Aku terserah aja mau ke mana, yang penting berdua kamu. Di rumah aja juga nggak apa-apa. Kan sama saja.”

I'm 31, he's almost 40. RT @iipche: Emang jarak umur sama Beno berapa tahun?

Gue jelaskan di twit berikutnya, ya. RT @depheetan: Nggak butuh eksis di mana gitu maksudnya gimana?

Maksudnya, umumnya laki-laki di Jakarta yang seumuran gue harus clubbing, ngopi, makan, hang out di tempat paling hip baru merasa ”eksis”.

Harus sudah nonton film ini atau itu, harus jadi part of the so-called in-crowd, harus punya ribuan follower di Twitter, baru merasa ”eksis”.

Jadi butuh semacam ”pengakuan” dari publik baru dia merasa dirinya oke.

How can this kind of guy make you happy when he still doesn't know what makes him happy?

Beno sama sekali nggak begitu. Dia tahu dan sadar dia siapa dan dia percaya diri aja dengan apa adanya dirinya, nggak butuh ”pengakuan” publik itu.

Dia hanya mau jadi dokter bedah yang baik, the best kalau bisa, udah cukup. Nggak perlu eksistensi dalam bentuk yang gue bilang tadi.

Jadi hidupnya tenang. He knows what he wants and brings real meaning in his life, and that’s all that he cares about. Nggak ribet.

Kalau dia suka satu tempat, ya udah dia akan terus suka restoran itu misalnya. Kesukaan dia nggak hilang hanya karena ada tempat baru yang lebih hip.

Beno juga pernah bilang, yang bikin dia bahagia itu cuma tiga: 1. Kalau dia bisa menyelamatkan pasien, 2. Kalau dia bersama gue, 3. Kalau dia bisa bikin gue senang.

Knowing him for the last seven years and being with him have taught me about how to see and choose what is essential in our life.

Itu yang dulu belum pernah gue rasakan dengan laki-laki lain sebelum Beno.

Seperti yang pernah gue bilang dulu. In the end, apa sih yang kita cari dari pasangan kalau bukan rasa aman dan nyaman?

3 Desember 2011

On our way to the airport now. Last tweets before my ndoro confiscate all my communication devices.

5 Desember 2011

Happy anniversary, snore boy. Thank you for one of the greatest gifts a husband could give to his wife.

6 Desember 2011

Diving is awesome! Pak Dokter gosong!

7 Desember 2011

This guy is a rockstar during our getaway here. A rockstar!

And I'm his number one fan.

10 Desember 2011

1 AM in Sorong, one night here before the flight back to Jakarta tomorrow morning. We left Misool, Raja Ampat this afternoon.

Hate to leave that heaven on earth so soon. Pengennya liburan sebulan aja. It's honeymoon, right? Not honeyweek!

To have the doctor's undivided attention to me for the whole week is priceless. Nggak ada gangguan panggilan RS, TV, Wii, sepakbola. All for me.

Every sunset, we'd lie in the hammock and stare at the sea and the sky and talk about everything. Mendengarkan si pendiam ini terbuka ngobrol tentang dirinya dan tentang kami.

Beno itu lempeng dan jarang bicara. Sometimes I don't even know what's in his mind.

Secara bilang cinta ke gue aja bisa dihitung dengan jari selama tujuh tahun gue kenal dia.

But this week in Raja Ampat, I listened to him talk about his plans for me, for us, for the next 1, 2, 5, 10, 30, 40 years.

Hahahahaha, jahat lo! RT @winasoedarjo: Ya ampun, laki lo itu generasi zaman dulu banget sih, pernikahan aja di-REPELITA-kan.

20 Desember 2011

This meeting is as boring as watching paints dry.

WOI BOS, NASIB GUE GIMANA INI??

Iya, pantat gue udah rata duduk meeting dari tadi sore sampai sekarang nggak kelar-kelar. RT @winasoedarjo: Lo masih di kantor jam segini? Buset!

@winasoedarjo Nice, nasib rapat di kantor belum jelas, yang baru pulang dari RS langsung BBM ngomel-ngomel kenapa gue belum pulang.

Reseh. RT @winasoedarjo: Diabsen guru BP ya? Terima nasib aja, Lex :p

29 Desember 2011

Marilyn Monroe said that the real lover is a man who can thrill you just by kissing your forehead. Beno does. Every time.

See? Apalagi yang waktu udah punya anak. Oom-oom ganteng. My type banget LOL! RT @winasoedarjo: Gue baru nonton *One Day* kemarin, setuju Jim Sturgess gantengnya maksimal di film ini!

@winasoedarjo Do you remember that one line from that movie,

when Anne Hathaway said to Sturgess: ”I love you, I just don’t like you anymore.” I think that’s probably what I felt when Beno and I were separated.

30 Desember 2011

Really weird day. Really weird.

No. Had lunch with Denny and it was weird. RT @winasoedarjo: Kelakuan laki lo lagi?

Heh! Nggak sengaja, dodol. Lo nggak usah ngadu-ngadu, ya! RT @winasoedarjo: Anak nakal. Perlu dilapor ke guru BP kayaknya.

Reseh. Bentar, gue meeting dulu. RT @winasoedarjo: Lapor dulu sama gue baru gue putuskan perlu gue teruskan ke guru BP atau nggak.

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Mana laporannya? Ini udah jam berapa?

@winasoedarjo Ya ampun, minta ditoyor lo, ya. Baru kelar meeting gue.

@winasoedarjo About the lunch with Denny, murni nggak sengaja. Gue lagi late lunch (jam 1) sendirian di PP, lagi pengen mi pho 2000, terus dia ada di situ.

@winasoedarjo Sendirian juga. He asked me to eat with him, masa gue tolak?

@winasoedarjo So we sat and had lunch together, nggak lama, sejam juga nggak nyampe. Dia cerita recent news tentang dirinya, terus nanya kabar gue.

@winasoedarjo Gue nggak mau nanya-nanya dia sekarang pacaran sama siapa or something like that, ntar dikirain masih peduli, lagi.

@winasoedarjo Dia nanya gue: ”Kok kamu tumben makan sendirian?” Gue jawab: ”Karena lagi iseng aja pengen mi itu dan anak-anak kantor udah keluar makan dari jam 12.”

@winasoedarjo Gue tanya balik: ”Tumben makan di daerah PP, sendirian pula. Dijawab sambil senyum-senyum: ”Nasib nggak ada pacar ya begini, Lex.”

@winasoedarjo to @alexandrarheaw Isssh, modus banget tuh si Denny.

@winasoedarjo Hahahaha makanya gue tadi ketawa aja: ”Bohong banget.” Dia senyum jawab: ”Beneran.” (Udah, gue nggak mau nanya-nanya lagi)

@winasoedarjo Anyway, Denny nanya: ”What’s new with you?” Gue jawab: ”Biasa-biasa aja, masih di kantor yang lama.” Terus dia nanya: ”Beno apa kabar?”

@winasoedarjo Gue jawab aja bahwa Beno baru abis fellowship di NY, his career is going well.

@winasoedarjo Tau nggak abis itu Denny nanya apa? Dengan senyum-senyum: ”Masih sibuk kayak dulu, ya?” (Gue ngerti ini maksudnya nanya: ”Elo masih sering ditinggal-tinggal sama laki lo?”)

@winasoedarjo Gue berusaha nggak terpancing dan nyolot jawab.

@winasoedarjo Instead dengan tenang gue bilang: ”Pasiennya sih makin banyak, Den. Tapi, dia pinter kok ngatur waktu. Kami masih sering liburan bareng.”

@winasoedarjo I tried to cut the lunch short, nggak sampe sejam gue pamit buru-buru mau ada meeting lagi. Udah, gitu doang.

@winasoedarjo Denny sempat minta maaf tentang Singapore. Dia

bilang: ”Maaf ya waktu itu aku agak maksa ketemu kamu, cuma kangen ngobrol aja.”

Gue bilang aja maaf gue delete contact dia. Gue bilang gue nggak nyaman dan gue juga nggak enak sama suami gue. RT @winasoedarjo: Lo ngomong apa pas dia bilang begitu?

@winasoedarjo Honestly, gue kadang masih merasa bersalah sama Denny. The way things ended between us itu... Well, dia nggak salah apa-apa dan gue akhiri aja.

@winasoedarjo Tapi daripada gue lanjutin padahal gue belum bisa sepenuh hati sama dia, kasian dianya.

Kadang gue juga wondering, seandainya gue ikut Denny ke NY dan menikah dengan dia, hidup gue sekarang gimana, ya?

Mungkin lebih tenang daripada sekarang—sama Denny kan nggak pernah berantem, beda dengan Beno. Tapi, mungkin nggak sebahagia sekarang juga.

Dan, Beno pernah ngomong ke gue: ”Kalau waktu itu kamu nikah sama Denny, aku nggak mau lagi dipanggil kalau kamu sakit ya.” (Jiaah, dokter macam apa ini).

Here’s another confession, abis gue menolak lamaran Denny itu, ada 2 minggu kali gue tiap malam kepikiran, am I making the right decision.

Secara dia baik-baik, sayang sama gue, dan dengan status gue yang janda cerai waktu itu, syukur ada dia yang sayang banget sama gue.

By the way ini si Beno udah jam 9 belum kelihatan juga batang hidungnya, ditelepon juga nggak ngangkat-ngangkat. Typical.

What do you think would be different with my life if I married Denny back then?

Flat gimana maksudnya? RT @assriantiaci: Flat kali yah, Tante.

Yang jelas gue nggak kayak sekarang kali, pusing mikirin laki gue kenapa nggak pulang-pulang dan teleponnya nggak diangkat-angkat.

RT @githaparamitha: Tentunya Tante nggak se-confident sekarang. Secara cuma sama Oom Ben, Tante kelihatan "lengkap". My point of view ya, Tan. :)

Tetep aja gue dipanggil Tante, ya. *lempar KTP*

Amiiiin (asal anak sendiri, bukan sapaan online shop). RT @putiandam: Moga-moga bentar lagi ada yang manggil Mommy :) Aamiin...

Yang di RS akhirnya nelepon, just to say he just got out of surgery and will be home around 10.30ish instead. Kapan istirahatnya orang ini?

Hahaha iya. RT @PiiJune: Different doctor pastinya... Abang Beno kan ngancem nggak mau dateng lagi bukan?

RT @RuththeresiaTan: Lex, I'm stuck with my ex. Dia udah move on. Gue cuma bengong liatin dia. Gue takut ngeliat dia ada yang baru tapi nggak bisa apa-apa.

Jawaban gue atas twit terakhir: "If somebody is dumb enough to walk away and leave you, then you must be smart enough to let them go."

Ada follower yang nanya sama gue: "Percaya banget sih sama laki lo, dia pulang malam-malam nggak ngangkat telepon pasti di RS, siapa tau malah selingkuh."

Kadang gue ngecek kok, sometimes I called the hospital when he's not picking up his phone, dan kata RS-nya dia sedang bedah atau sedang ada pasien.

I trust him completely, and he never gave me a reason not to.

Jadi control freak itu capek, tau. (Nyindir Beno yang sering ngabsen-ngabsen gue.)

Orang paling sibuk sedunia udah pulang. Twit you later, ya.

23 Januari 2012

Life is good.

The bitch's husband is massaging her feet whilst watching TV. The bitch is enjoying the massage sambil pamer di Twitter. ;)

This is one of those moments that reminds the bitch that her life is perfect. And, the bitch wants nothing more than a baby from the husband.

The bitch longs for somebody to call her "Mommy". Just like the bitch dreams of the husband chasing their lil kid around the house.

Just like the bitch dreams of the husband kissing her pregnant belly and talking to their unborn baby.

The bitch can see these dreams come true one day, right?

The bitch would like to believe that this will happen soon, but the bitch still has this fear that haunts her every day.

The fear that it's never gonna happen. That they'll remain childless. The fear that the husband would leave her to marry another woman.

Another woman that could give him babies instead. The bitch might appear strong, fun in the outside, but she has these fears inside of her.

And, every month that the test pack turns negative or the period arrives, these fears grow larger and larger. And she can't help it.

And, beside those fears, there's also sadness. This growing pain that is squeezing her heart every time people ask her: "Udah isi?"

And this despair whenever her husband kisses her belly every time after they made love and he says: "Berenang yang bener dan jadi anak, ya."

Sometimes the bitch wonders if her life is perfect and she has too much already that if God grants her a baby, it won't be fair to anyone else.

But what does the bitch know, right? The bitch, after all, is only a bitch, who's tweeting mindlessly this Monday evening.

But as long as the husband is here, choosing to be with her every day, the bitch is happy. And, wishes that the husband is too.

Even if there's only the two of them in this little family of theirs.

Hahahaha *toyor* RT @winasoedarjo: And sometimes the bitch's best friend still wonders how the bitch ends up with that stiff, serious, expressionless husband of hers.

26 Januari 2012

Still stuck in the office waiting for a meeting that I don't even know when to start. At this fucking hour.

Live report from my office right now: gue bengong di meja, tweeting, asisten gue lagi main Angry Birds, bos gue yang mau ngajak rapat entah ke mana.

Seriously, I don't mind OTS sibuk ke mana-mana, ngurusin nasabah, crunching numbers whatever shit, tapi paling males kalau nunggu rapat nggak jelas gini.

Nunggu rapat nggak jelas ini sama nelangsanya dengan nunggu dilamar. Mending nunggu dilamar masih bisa nge-hint/ngancem biar cepetan.

Office boy udah mulai menghampiri ke meja gue: "Ibu mau dibelikan makan apa?"

Di kantor gue ya, kalau OB mulai nanya lo mau dibeliin makan apa, tanda-tandanya lo bakal disuruh lembur sampai terkapar entah jam berapa.

BBM from the doctor: "Lemburnya sampai jam berapa?" Me: "Nggak tau, Hon. Ini meeting-nya aja nggak mulai-mulai." Him: "Kok aneh sih?" Me: "Marahnya sama bosku gih."

Untung sampai sekarang bos gue nggak follow Twitter gue, kerjaannya ngomel-ngomel gini mulu.

Gue pulang OTS dari Surabaya, dia jemput gue ke bandara. RT @mars_SDS: Emang dulu waktu nunggu dilamar si Oom pertama kali gimana, Tante? *kepo*

Waktu itu jam 8an malem, Jakarta hujan deras dan macet parah. Gue udah capek banget jadi di mobil udah males-malesan dan bawaannya pengen tidur.

Jadi di mobil nggak ngobrol, dia diem nyetir, gue juga diem setengah tertidur.

Itu kan macet total ya mobilnya nggak gerak. Eh tiba-tiba si Beno Wicaksono itu nyium gue.

Gue melek, dia dengan muka dan suara lempeng itu ngomong begini: "Lex, marry me?" Gue bengong sebengong-bengongnya.

Ngeliat gue bengong nggak ngomong 3 detikan gitu, dia lanjut ngomong begini:... (tetap dengan muka lempeng btw)

”Sayang, maaf ya belum sempat beliin kamu cincin, tapi aku nggak tahan lagi ingin melamar kamu.” Gue masih bengong. Him: ”Ini serius nanyanya. Mau?”

Coba deh lo bayangkan itu kejadian dan suasananya gimana. Kalau lo jadi gue, lo bengong juga nggak? Bengong pasti.

Gue nggak bisa ngomong apa-apa, hanya bisa senyum dan mengangguk. Dia langsung senyum seneng banget, kissed me again, terus ngomong begini:...

”Makasih ya udah mau. Besok aku beliin cincinnya. Sekarang tidur aja, kan capek.” Beno Wicaksono, ladies and gentlemen! :)

Udah gitu doang ceritanya.

Dan, sampai gue selesai cerita itu RAPATNYA BELUM JELAS JUGA KAPAN MULAINYA!!!!

Melamar yang kedua juga di mobil. Tapi, kali ini udah siap cincin hehehe.

Jadi nggak ada tuh yang he got down on his knees bawa bunga whatever cincin disembunyiin di kue apa kek kayak di film-film.

Nanyanya aja pake kata-kata ”Mau?” Kayak ngajak beli nasi goreng.

But in a way, I love how straightforward and no basa-basi that he is. Gue jadi nggak merasa digombalin. He says what he means, means what he says.

I know. It’s so Beno pokoknya. RT @haniyyahhasna: Tapi ya, I don’t even know why, it sounds cool. :O

Mau tau besoknya adegan ngasih cincinnya gimana? Sama lempengnya.

Sekitar jam 10 malam, dia muncul di apartemen gue, langsung dari RS katanya, terus minta makan karena kelaparan.

Berhubung yours truly here can't cook, gue cuma bisa bikinin scrambled egg. Gue di apartemen nasi putih pun nggak punya.

So I cooked the egg while he sat in the pantry ngobrol sama gue. Scrambled egg selesai, gue hidangkan ke yang bersangkutan.

Gue taruh piringnya di depan dia, terus dia senyum dan ngeluarin kotak kecil dari saku celana.

He said: "Ini cincinnya ya sesuai janji tadi malem, langsung dipake ya, Lex, biar orang-orang tau kamu udah punya aku."

He took my hand and slipped the ring into my finger. Terus udah, dia langsung makan telur itu dengan lahapnya.

Ajaib ya laki gue?

LEBIH AJAIB INI BOS GUE YANG NGAJAK RAPAT BATANG HIDUNGNYA NGGAK MUNCUL-MUNCUL JUGA!

The moment when you want to kill your boss with a shotgun. *ngokang senapan in my head*

Udah disuruh nunggu sampai jam segini ya, saudara-saudara, eh tiba-tiba yang bersangkutan nelepon: "Lex, besok pagi aja deh meeting-nya. Kamu langsung pulang aja."

Weird, the traffic is still pretty bad at this hour? What gives?

Twit you later, I'm home.

Bubble bath FTW!

He's seriously reading a thick book whose title I can't even pronounce.

Bubble bath is my sanctuary like reading is his sanctuary. Nggak usah saling mengganggu kalo nggak perlu.

27 Januari 2012

That awkwardly sad moment when I received an e-mail from a baby online shop and they greet me with ”Bunda”....

Mereka harusnya tau, nggak semua orang yang belanja di situ punya anak. Ada yang seperti gue, suka belanja buat ngasih kado ke orang.

Ada yang kayak gue, yang lagi menanti hamil nggak hamil-hamil, and people calling me ”Bunda” just reminded me of that failure.

28 Januari 2012

Morning swim. 20 laps, go!

Expecting the doctor to wake up before 10 on weekends is like expecting snow in Jakarta.

Slow Saturday at home. Me tweeting, the doctor snoring.

This movie on Celestial channel is quite cute.

The male character in this film just said this: ”9 dr 10 laki-laki itu berselingkuh, yang 1-nya lagi pengen tapi nggak bisa.” What do you expect?

The female character answered: ”Gue mau nyari yang kesebelas!”

Lunch in bed. We’re a couple of slackers. ;) Pasangan paling pemalas sedunia.

Finding Nemo on Fox Family Movies. Beno's reaction: "Mau berapa ratus kali nonton film ini?" Me: "Yang tadi malem udah maksa nonton *PA 3*, mingkem."

"@ikoikooo: Menurut Mbak, artis-artis yang udah pada cerai dan nemuin pasangan hidup barunya masing-masing bakal kangen nggak sama her/his ex wife/husband?"

To answer the previous twit: I don't know. And I can't judge either. Tiap orang punya pengalaman dan perasaan yang beda-beda.

Sejak pernah bercerai, I learned that cuma kedua orang (pasangan) itu yang tahu alasan sebenarnya mereka pisah. It's not in our position to judge.

If I marry somebody else after Beno and got divorced, would I miss Beno? Most likely yes. He's the 1st one to touch me. I can't forget that.

Gue kan bukan robot yang punya tombol yang bisa dipencet untuk lupa semuanya.

Can I ask you a question? Why do you follow me on Twitter?

Sialan. RT @Jjun30: Because you are Dr. Beno's wife... kekeke...

Aww thanks. RT @githaparamitha: Don't know why, but I just want to. Both of you are a cute.

Bola selesai, ada yang mulai ngomel gue masih tweeting. Time to call it a night. Have a great weekend!

10 Februari 2012

Kebagusan for the weekend!

He's watching this horror movie on DVD, I'm trying to distract myself from TV by playing whatever game on the iPad.

And guess what just happened?

I said: ”Hon, pakein lotion ke kakiku dong, nanti tanganku lengket, lagi megang iPad.” Him: ”Ya udah, sini.”

So I handed him the lotion, put my legs on his laps, and he rubbed it all over my legs, tapi kok lama banget masih dielus-elus juga.

Me: ”Udah? Kok lama banget, pegel kakinya dimiringin begini.” Mau tau jawabannya?

Him: ”Ya dinikmati, Yang. Namanya juga lagi megang-megang kaki cewek cantik,” dengan muka lempengnya itu.

Oh, Bapak Beno... nggak tau mau ketawa atau bengong.

18 Februari 2012

I just saw *Rabbit Hole* on TV. Heartbreaking.

Ada yang udah nonton? Aaron Eckhart dan Nicole Kidman memerankan pasangan yang anaknya (4 tahun) baru saja meninggal karena kecelakaan.

I can imagine how sad and devastated I would be if that happens to me.

It got me thinking.

Losing kids destroyed the husband-wife’s relationship in this movie.

I worry if not having kids yet would destroy my relationship with the husband eventually. I don’t know, I hope not.

You know the saying ”You can’t miss what you never had?” I think kids are the exception. I miss kids, even if I never had them.

Sedih dan takut liat di film ini, the husband deals with grief dengan orang lain, the wife juga dengan orang lain, not with each other.

It’s easy to find someone whom you can laugh with, but it’s not easy to find someone whom you can endure the sadness together with.

Oh well. Why should I worry too much about this?

23 Februari 2012

This part of my life is experiencing the so-called baby syndrome. Melihat apa pun yang berkaitan dengan bayi langsung mellow sendiri.

Hahaha I guess so. RT @adit_tio: Sabar yaa, sementara ini mainin 40-year-old-big-baby-nya dulu aja yang puas. :p

The Surgeon got back-to-back surgery until 10 PM tonight, and his wife right here got a birthday surprise for him at exactly midnight tonight.

Awww bener ya dateng ya, miss you all. ”@winasoedarjo: Auntie Alex, Maddox dan Tiz mau ngasih kado buat Oom favoritnya, Minggu ke sana, ya.”

24 Februari 2012

Happy birthday, Beno Wicaksono. Semoga selalu sehat, sukses, makin sayang, dan bisa segera jadi ayah anak-anak kita. You’re the love of my life, Hon.

Hadiah dari gue buat dia ada 3.

1. A big chocolate fudge cake.

2. A watch.

3. Me with nothing else but a white T-shirt that says ”punya Beno” across the chest. ;)

The cake. *facepalm* RT @aamandakasih: Mana duluan yang dilahap Oom? A big chocolate fudge cake or you??

Tonight, the doctor whispered something in bahasa Arab then kissed my tummy after we did it. When I asked what it means, he said:...

”Itu doa Nabi Zakaria waktu dia mohon kepada Allah untuk punya anak, Yang. Mudah-mudahan doa aku dikabulkan seperti Allah dulu mengabulkan doanya.”

Dear God, if You won’t listen to my prayers, would You please listen to my husband’s. Please.

26 Februari 2012

”Kalau kita punya niat baik dan tulus, pasti akan dibantu Allah. Tapi kita hanya manusia, kita nggak boleh ngatur-ngatur gimana datengnya bantuan itu.”

Itu kata-kata Beno waktu gue kembali sedih membahas tentang anak tadi siang.

I guess that’s why I fall in love with him more every day. Among all the childish banters from his mouth like, ”Yang, minta cokelat...”

He also says the wisest and warmest things that make me feel that everything is going to be okay.

Then I said to him: ”Hon, seandainya kita nggak berhasil punya anak juga gimana?”

He said: ”Maksud kamu hanya kita berdua aja peluk-pelukan seperti sekarang sampai tua?” I nodded.

He said: ”Aku belum pernah punya anak, jadi nggak bisa mendefinisikan berapa besar kebahagiaan yang kita rasakan kalau punya anak...

...Tapi aku sudah merasakan punya kamu, udah merasakan nggak punya kamu juga. Dan, memiliki kamu seperti sekarang ini buat aku udah seneng banget.

...Jadi kalau kita punya anak, kebahagiaannya pasti bertambah. Kalau nggak punya, kebahagiaannya nggak berkurang. Tetap seneng banget kayak sekarang.

...Jadi mindset kamu juga harus sama ya. The absence of children is not a substraction of happiness. Matematika-nya nggak gitu, Lex.

...Orang-orang cenderung menilai kebahagiaan itu dari apa yang belum mereka punya, padahal seharusnya kebahagiaan itu dinilai dari apa yang kita sudah punya.”

He hugged me in bed when he said that, and within 5 minutes he fell asleep. Enak ya jadi Beno, melihat hidup ini dengan apa adanya aja jadi nggak pusing.

While his wife right here is the one who always worries too much.

26 Februari 2012

Dijual tiket nonton konser Guitar Hero starring Beno Wicaksono, 150 ribu per orang. Ada yang mau nggak? *twit stres siang bolong ada yang berisik*

Daripada menderita sendiri dengan berisik luar biasanya Guitar Hero ini, might as well make money out of it.

Nggak pernah pake marah, paling nyubit perutnya aja. RT @wiewi: Lo pernah complain kalau berisik nggak sih ke dia? Tanggapan Beno gimana?

Gue cubit dan gue ngomong: "Berisik banget sih kamu." Dia ketawa-ketawa aja dan tetap main. Ya udah deh, kasian tiap hari stres di RS.

4 Maret 2012

Setiap melihat Beno doanya lama banget abis sholat, my heart breaks and warms up at the same time because I know what he's praying for.

I once asked him, and he answered with bullet points. Of course.

"1. Doa supaya kita tetap rukun dan kamu nggak pernah minta cerai lagi, 2. Doa supaya kita cepat punya anak, 3. Supaya kita sehat-sehat, 4. Supaya murah dan berkah rezeki."

Nggak nyangka dia masih berdoa 5 kali sehari supaya gue nggak minta cerai lagi. I'm not gonna, Hon, trust me. Not gonna. Ever.

I was more miserable in my best days when we're not together than in my worst days when we're together.

Anyway, today is our Java Jazz date day! The anniversary of how we met.

Tujuh tahun yang lalu, pagi-pagi begini ketawa-ketawa sama Wina, nggak nyangka sama sekali malamnya bakal ketemu sama jodoh dan cinta mati gue. ;)

Dalam bentuk seorang dokter yang pas pertama kenalan hemat bicara, senyumnya dikit, semi arogan, yang muka sengaknya pengen gue toyor.

Dulu aja ya, Ben, sengak banget mukanya, sekarang tidur nempel-nempel begini dengan muka manja kayak anak kecil.

Yes I am :) RT @rsgabrielle: Lucky bitch! ;)

I think he's a lucky bastard too. Sama perempuan lain mungkin nggak diturutin semua keinginannya kayak sama gue. He's a spoiled big baby to me.

Me to the doctor just now: "Hon, kita nggak mau pergi sekarang? Ada Pat Metheny, Swing Out Sister, Dave Koz sebelum Stevie Wonder."

Dijawab (suara ngantuk): "Malem aja ya, mending bobo-boboan dulu." (Langsung meluk terus ngorok 1 menit kemudian). Kebo ih.

Gonna catch an early dinner before JJF tonight. Excited!

Who knows? ;) RT @yayiyay: Apakah aku akan bernasib seperti @alexandrarheaw bertemu calon suami di #JJF? Hmmm...

On our way to JJF. 7 years, Honey. 7 years. I want 70 more years with you.

Sebenarnya sih laki gue nggak pernah peduli sama yang namanya anniversary. Buat dia asal pas dia tidur dan bangun gue milik dia itu udah cukup.

Concerts are the only place where my kaku husband would show PDA by standing behind me and hugging me tight.

Just met Ario and Intania, his wife, here. Nostalgic! It was Ario who introduced me to Beno 7 years ago. We love you, dude!

Ngantre Stevie Wonder sambil dipeluk Yang Mulia Beno Wicaksono. #simplejoy (walau mukanya tetap tanpa ekspresi)

7 years ago, at this hour, Ario waved at me when he saw me, he came over and said hi, then he said: ”Eh, gue kenalin sama temen-temen gue, ya.”

I remember every one of his friends was smiling ramah banget, kecuali Beno yang senyumnya tipis dan semi cuek. Dalam hati gue: ”Sombong banget sih orang ini.”

He stood out not because he’s the tallest and he’s really good looking, tapi karena muka ketusnya itu yang nyebelin dan arogan.

The face that now has become the moon of my nights and the sun of my days.

Udah ya, BB-nya mau disita ;)

Terima kasih untuk 7 tahun ini, Alexandra—dari Beno, suami dan calon ayah anak-anak kamu.

She is still tweeting. Follow her.

a little something from the followers

RT **@mya_ramayanti**: Divortiare punya daya isap luar biasa. Dan akun @alexandrarheaw obat paling mujarab untuk rasa penasaran akan ending-nya.

RT **@sellyzevania**: I love Alex and Beno, their love-hate relationship, how they can be whom they really are, how marriage is not as smooth as in the TV show, and how love did conquer all. Finger cross, mereka nggak cerai lagi! :)

RT **@iiphche**: Baca TL @alexandrarheaw berasa baca cuplikan kisah someone yang bener-bener ada & selalu nagih ngikutinnya. Terlebih dia juga balas-balas mention.

RT **@meiisme**: Akun @alexandrarheaw itu feels so real, like I know Alex, Beno, Wina, Mbok in person. Bahkan sampai naksir Beno ”нініні ”

RT **@laxxmita**: Twivortiare bikin gue percaya kalau mereka real & sampai gue cari itu nama Dokter Beno di web-web RS haha. Dan selalu bikin gue kepo tingkat durjana!

RT **@sibocil**: Having so much fun with @alexandrarheaw twit just like real story. Very entertaining. Kadang buat ketawa, sedih, gregetan & penasaran.

RT **@beccalovesgreen**: They're both so adorable even when they fight, can't stop reading about them, I always scroll to the bottom to pick up where I left.

RT **@iMutiara**: Mrs. Beno Wicaksono's tweets somehow feel real & honest, shows us about the up(s) & down(s) in marriage life & how she handles it.

RT **@asrimayasari**: Having @alexandrarheaw in my TL everyday is like reading someone's life diary but never get bored & annoyed and... I love Beno :p

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RT **@_hida_**: Alexandra & Beno itu bikin gemes. Yang satu terlalu lempeng, yang satu ribut mulu karena kelempengan pasangannya... Tapi ya gitu saling cinta juga... :)))

RT **@olalalia**: Gue tau itu novel, tapi gue merasa itu real. Menghidupkan sosok fiksi ke Twitter, membuat kita merasa dia nyata dan ada di dekat kita.

RT **@irmainar**: Follow @alexandrarheaw pas masih 60an follower-nya, saya mikir itu beneran nyata. I love the way you create a character, Mbak Ika :)

RT **@chubbycheek**: Follow Alex + Beno's life, selalu bikin penasaran, mulai dari happy, kesel, gregetan karena sikap mereka berdua, they look like real not just a fiction.

RT **@tiasanisundari**: Karena pikiran-pikiran Alex itu bisa bikin mikir, especially when Alex and Beno face daily problems like any couples would have. Feels real.

RT **@virhaaan**: Gw follow @alexandrarheaw karena gue suka banget tokoh Alex dibuat as real as possible! Dengan karakter wanita ceplas-ceplos tapi buat ketawa & greget.

RT **@uchyggreany**: Follow @alexandrarheaw bener-bener ngebuat imajinasi kita tentang Divortiare lengkap dan seakan-akan berada di dalam real life bersama mereka.

RT **@indahchana**: Bikin gregetan! Jadi ikut larut sama emosinya. Its so real. Aku juga merasa jadi temennya, meski cuma temen fiksi. :p

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RT **@BiancaSyafina**: Hadirnya Twitter @alexandrarheaw itu ibarat bertemu sahabat cewek baru yang smart, funny, dan punya banyak cerita seru.

RT **@rsgabrielle**: She seems real and like any other woman, her life is full with ups and downs which makes us curious.

RT **@riantikarafni**: Selalu penasaran nunggu update tweet-nya. Kreatif banget! Lebih seru karena seperti nyata dan kita bisa interaksi langsung sama si tokoh :D

and for the birth of this book, let me mention...

The faithful readers of my books—especially *Divortiare*—who in their own way inspired me to create @alexandrarheaw Twitter account. Prita Parahita Arthomo, Claudia Von Nasution, Dina Mahdayani, and Dina Faridhotun Utami for their tremendous help in compiling the complete tweets of @alexandrarheaw since the first day that she started tweeting. Eliysha Saputra, Syarafina Alfiansyah, Hanun Halida, and Yuris Sunatra—four followers who assisted me when Twivortiare was first self-published through nulisbuku.com, your dedication and hard work are deeply appreciated. Henry Gerson, for your last minute help in editing some pages in the rough draft. And of course, Rosi L. Simamora, my editor.

My buddies who made my Twitter timeline always fun to read—thus keeping me longer online, thus more time to tweet Alexandra's story (see the connection? No? Oh, well): @naiyna @neddi_s @kangdamz @chacaloveswhite @refi_r @tofanasmoro @hirdaumiderata @JeungMaya @yan_lingga @TanyaPermato @qnoy2k @Agnescoco @carnauval @JennyJusuf @VeHandojo @JohanJT

Writing through tweeting is an interactive process, and I owe every single followers of @alexandrarheaw for their mentions, comments, and daily interactions with the character because they play a big role in creating the story too. And for all the followers that I can't mention one by one, I hope a collective thank you—and apology—will be enough.

For everything, I'd like to thank my parents Aja Zulham and Dewi Kartini and my brother Bram Maretta.

twitterauthor

IKA NATASSA adalah seorang banker dengan hobi menulis dan fotografi. *Twivortiare* adalah novel kelimanya setelah *A Very Yuppy Wedding* (Gramedia Pustaka Utama, 2007), *Divortiare* (Gramedia Pustaka Utama, 2008), *Underground* (self-published dengan nulisbuku.com, 2010), dan *Antologi Rasa* (Gramedia Pustaka Utama, 2011). *AVYW* menjadi Editor's Choice majalah *Cosmopolitan Indonesia* tahun 2008, dan dia juga dinominasikan sebagai Talented Young Writer dalam penghargaan Khatulistiwa Literary Award tahun 2008. Tahun 2004 dia menjadi salah satu finalis Fun Fearless Female majalah *Cosmopolitan Indonesia*, dan tahun 2010 memperoleh penghargaan Women Icon dari The Marketeers.

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> **“** Commitment is a funny thing, you know? It's almost like **getting a tattoo**. You think and you think and you think and you think before you get one. And once you get one, it sticks to you **hard and deep**. **”**

Do busy bankers tweet? Yes, they do. Empat tahun setelah *Divortiare*, Alexandra membuka kembali hidupnya kepada publik melalui akun Twitter-nya @alexandrarheaw. Lembar demi lembar buku ini adalah hasil "mengintip" kehidupannya sehari-hari, pemikirannya yang *witty* dan sangat jujur, spontan, *chaotic*, dan terkadang menusuk, yang akhirnya akan bisa menjawab pertanyaan: "Dapatkah kita mencintai dan membenci seseorang sedemikian rupa pada saat bersamaan?"

Twivortiare adalah kisah klasik tentang cinta dan luka, terangkai dalam *tweets*, *mentions*, dan DM, yang lahir lewat ujung-ujung jemari karakter-karakternya.

@alexandrarheaw — sample tweets

You are not really a couple until you can enjoy each other's company in silence.

A woman can never have too many shoes. This I know is true.

I just realized this. When you're married, you start to feel for two people - you and your spouse.

Laki lo di kandungan, dodol! "@hotwinasoedarjo makanya baikan aja. My husband looks at other women's vaginas everyday and I'm cool with it."

IKA NATASSA adalah seorang *banker* dengan hobi menulis dan fotografi. *Twivortiare* adalah novel kelimanya setelah *A Very Yuppy Wedding*, *Divortiare*, *Underground*, dan *Antologi Rasa*. AVYW terpilih menjadi Editor's Choice majalah *Cosmopolitan Indonesia* tahun 2008, dan dia juga dinominasikan sebagai Talented Young Writer dalam penghargaan Khatulistiwa Literary Award tahun 2008. Tahun 2004 dia menjadi salah satu finalis Fun Fearless Female majalah *Cosmopolitan Indonesia*, dan tahun 2010 memperoleh penghargaan Women Icon dari The Marketeers.

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ISBN: 978-979-22-8674-8